جوردان تابيز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة المنتجلية الأردنية دالراي،

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The government said Friday it would open macrocedented talks with Nelson Mandela and African National Congress imprecedented talks with Nelson Mandels and African National Congress (ANC) leaders April 11. President F.W. de Klerk's office sold in a statement the president and his cabinet would meet ANC leaders to deal with "obstacles perceived to obstruct the process toward negotiations." The talks are expected to try to set up formal negotiations on a new constitution that would give the black majority national voting rights. Friday's statement gave no additional details and there was no insmediate comment from the ANC. Lenders from the ANC's exile headquarters in Zambin are expected to be part of the delegation. The organization was banned from 1960 until last month, and many ANC leaders will be making their first trip to South Africa since heading into exile more than a their first trip to South Africa slace heading into exile more than a quarter-century ago. De Klerk legalized the ANC and more than 60 other noti-centurid groups Feb. 2. Nine days later be freed Mandeln, who had been imprisuated for 27 years for helping to launch the ANC inhotage cannalize.

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Regent

stresses

need to

develop

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal

Highness Crown Prince Hassan,

the Regent, Friday called for

increased cooperation between

the Armed Forces and the Minis-

try of Education to set up a

polytechnic institute in the south

to develop the human resources

The Regent, speaking at a meeting with members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Par-

liament from the south, and dis-

trict governors and other senior

officials, said special attention

should be directed towards de-

veloping the land as well as hu-

The Regent said one of the

means to achieve the objective

was through creating new courses

and technical institutes, the Jor-

dan News Agency, Petra, said

reporting on the talks held at Mu'ta University.

Pointing out that Jordan lacked

accurate information resources

on the precise reasons for unem-

ployment in the Kingdom, the

Regent called for priority to be

given to people from the south in

employment in industries and

Stressing the importance of de-

veloping land resources, the Regent said local councils should

interact among themselves as well

as with the capital and other regions through working out an

effective framework for coopera-

"It is out collective responsibil-

ity to find solutions to our prob-

He called for a shift from the

cracy of systems" and underlined

the importance of consultation as

the primary way to counter "des-

The Regent listened to the

problems, demands and propos-

als of the governorates of Maan,

Tafileh and Karak as conveyed to

him by the parliamentarians and

officials and voiced his full under-

standing of the situation, Petra

The agency summarised the

lems," the Regent said.

tructive rumours.'

other companies in the area.

south

in the region.

man resources.

Activists exert efforts to counter **Jewish Immigration**

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group representing various public organisa-tions met with Prime Minister Mudar Badran Thursday and discussed with him efforts to counter the threats inherent in Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and. the occupied territories, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The agency quoted a spokesman for the group as saying that the seven-member delegation briefed the prime minister on their contacts and efforts to alert the public on the threats posed by the massive influx of Jewish immigrants to Israel and the occupied lands. Earlier, the group handed petitions in this regard to the ambassadors of the United States and the Soviet Union and sent letters to the heads of Arab states. Prime Minister Badran voiced appreciation of the group's efforts, which constituted "one more step towards enhancing the steadfastness of the Arab people in the face of Israel's challenges." The prime minister emphasised the need to maintain national unity in the face of the threat posed by Jewish immigration into Palestine, the spokesman said.

U.N. chief due here March 27

AMMAN (Petra) - United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will arrive in Jordan on a four-day private visit March 27. The visit comes in response to an invitation by His Majesty King Hussein.

Arafat, Nathan meet again

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat met Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan in Tunis Friday for the second time in eight days, the Palestine Liberation (PLO) news agency said. Nathan, who runs a pacifist radio statioo in the Mediterranean, recently com-pleted four months in jail for seeing Arafat oo an earlier occasion. The agency quoted Nathan as saying, "I am campaigning for the sake of peace and against this law." Arafat told the agency, "Peacelovers among the Palestinian and Israeli peoples will oot forget what be has done. Generations to come will appreciate his struggle."

India's deputy prime minister quits

NEW DELHI (R) — India's Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal Friday handed in his resignation from the country's second most important political post, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said. It quoted sources close to Lal as saying he was upset over what be saw as a "campaign of vilification" against him. There was no immediate official confirmatioo of the resignatioo, potentially a major crisis for the 16-week-old minority government of Prime Minister V.P.

Hurd flies to Oman

LONDON (AP) - Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd flew to Oman Friday to attend a meeting of European Community (EC) foreign ministers and the Gulf Cooperation Council. The foreign secretary's departure was de-layed for 30 minutes while he waited for important documents to be brought to the airport.

Sudan plays down U.S. ald cut

ABU DHABI (R) - Sudan's Finance Minister Saved Ali Zaki said Friday that his country would find new sources of aid to replace funds cut by the United States. Washington said last week said it had stopped military and economic aid to Sudan under a law banning assistance to governments which came to power by a coup and failed to restore democracy within eighth months. "The American decision will not have any impact on Sudan because the aid represents a small party of Sudan's resources," Zaki told reporters after attending an Arab monetary conference in Abu

Jordan defends Iraqi

lead efforts for peace AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has defended Iraq against Western condemnation for its execution of London-based

journalist Farzad Bazoft. "We hope that the oumerous bids which we see and feel... and that aim at mistreating Iraq, not only in this case but on others. will ease," the King told the Voice of America radio.

There has been a concentrated attack on Iraq for a long period of time without any reason to justify it," the King said in the interview in London, carried by Jordan Radio Friday.

"There is no excuse for these efforts unless one would want to think that Iraq has defended the eastern borders of the Arab countries and the Arab Order and some might see that as constituting a danger," he added.

Bazoft, 31, was hanged Thurs-.

day after being convicted of spying for Britain and Israel. "I am not fully aware of all the details of this man's case, but there is no doubt that makes me question anything related to this matter, be it the Iraqi judiciary, the investigation, or the results that the various Iraqi authorities concerned reached," King Hus-

The King said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher asked him this week to use his good relations with Iraqi President Saddam Hus-

sein to stop the execution.

He said he cooveyed the appeal, "addressed to me on a humanitarian basis," to Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem who passed it to Iraqi Foreign Minister Taren Aziz.

King Hussein, now on a visit to London, Thursday discussed the testion of Jewish immigration into Palestine with British Foreien Secretary Sir Douglas Hurd with whom he also reviewed a number of developments in the Middle East.

The King drew attention to the grave dangers inherent in The Jewish 'immigration from the Soviet Unioo and urged Britain and the European Community to reactivate their role to bring about peace to the Middle East

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq

is organising huge demonstrations

throughout the country Saturday

in an orchestrated show of anger

at Britain for condemning the

hanging of London-based jour-nalist Farzad Bazoft.

The government-controlled

press announced the protests Fri-

day and denounced British critic-

Bazoft, 31, was banged Thurs-

day after being convicted by a

Baghdad court of spying for Bri-

tain and Israel. An Iranian-born

bachelor, be was stateless with

the right of residence in Britain.

clemency from world leaders and

brushed aside international critic-

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

- Jordan's permanent Repre-

sentative to the United Nations

Abdullah Salah, who is also the

current head of the Arab group,

said Thursday that Jewish im-

migration to Palestine was the

real cause of the Arab-Israeli

conflict and warned of its grave

Addressing the Security Council on Soviet Jewish immigration

to Israel, Saleh pointed out that

the issue constitutes a flagrant

violation of the Security Council

Resolution 465 and the fourth

"Jewish immigration will be

at the expense of the inalienable

rights of the Palestinian people

and the human rights of the

Palesetinains and the Syrian peo-

Geneva convention.

consequences on world peace.

Iraq ignored appeals for

ism of the executioo.

Resolutions 242 and 338.

action, urges U.S. to

The King voiced his satisfaction with Britain's role within the EC as reflected in a recent EC statement on the Jewish emigration question.

Hurd said that his country deeply appreciates Jordan's role in peace efforts and was keen on supporting all moves to establish

Earlier Thursday, King Hus-sein said the United States must take much greater responsibility for Middle East peace because of the political crisis in Israel and he warned that extremists on both sides could eodanger world

"Something needs to be done and fast," be told a huncheon of the Association of American Correspondents in London, which was held as Israel's parliament met following the government's collapse over a U.S. plan for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

The King said it was not his place to suggest what the United States should do next, but reiterated that he still believes U.S. President George Bush offers great hope for peace in the region and should now give the Mideast the attention that it merits.

"I believe that the United States now, in the realities of today, must realise that it has greater responsibilities for the future of all concerned in that area. on either side to the conflict, than ever before," he said.

"Without a solution to the problem. I fear that it is possible that those who have given so much and who have altered their position in the interest of peace may lose, and more extreme eleto the conflict," be said.

"Then the future would look bleak and the area would be a danger to the world, on top of being a danger to itself."

King Hussein said "it was inevitable" that Israel's coalition government collapse because of the pressures and tensions over the composition of the Palestinian delegation to talks with

Iraq plans demonstrations

to show anti-British anger

Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz accused Britain of showing a col-

onial mentality in its attacks on

Iraq. He warned other countries

against being "dragged into this ill-intentioned campaign con-cocted by the British author-

The Defence Ministry daily Al

'Iraq's policy was very clear

Qadissiya, recalling the 1968 ex-

ecution of several people for

from the start, that it does not

tolerate any type of espionage

and the time when Iraq was a den

News Agency (INA) published

impact of Jewish immigration

ple in Golan Heights," Salah said. "Israel will take immigra-

tion as an excuse to continue its

occupation of Arab territories,

under the pretext of its need for

more land to accommodate the

Salah noted that since oo

peaceful settlement has yet been

reached for the Arab-Israeli con-

flict, the immigration will mean

Israel's continued rejection of

"the land-for-peace" principle,

which has been accepted by the

international community as the

basis for establishing peace in the

Council to translate its resolu-

tions into action by suspending

immigration or redirecting the

immigrants to other countries.

Salah called on the Security

new immigrants," he said.

An announcement by the Iraqi

of spies and agents is over."

Jordan warns U.N. of grave

ism, particolarly io Western on the front pages of newspapers

spying for Israel, commented:

turning point for the better and that the result will be that the voice of those who can see beyond today, and the realities of today, can be heard in the interests of peace and instice," he

The King stressed that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had met every international demand, denouncing violence and recognising Israel's right to live in peace within secure borders. "The need now is for the Israeli side to do the same," he said.

The King said he was "disturbed and worried" to discover that between 45,000 and 46,000 Palestinians who bad recently gone from the Israeli-occupied territories to Jordan to visit family and friends had remained in Jordan because "many of them have not been permitted to re-

He raised the possibility that this might be an Israeli strategy to depopulate the West Bank and Gaza Strip to make room for an estimated 700,000 Soviet Jews expected to immigrate to Israel.

He also noted that there had been reports "that there is a figure of maybe 120,000 that some people consider are aliens living in Israel or in the occupied territories."

"Who are they and what does that mean is a question that needs answering sometime in the future, and hopefully it won't be answered by facts on the ground," he said.

The King said he had never opposed the right of Soviet Jews to immigrate to Israel. But he said there must be guarantees they won't settle in the occupied territories and replace Palestinians "and drive them out of the land of their fathers and forefathers."

The King said Shamir has said the Soviet Jews won't settle in the occupied territories. "However, he has. I believe, no inclination or desire to stop any settling wherever they feel like," the

"Huge demonstrations will

take place on Saturday morning

in all Iraqi governorates (pro-

vinces) to denounce the premedi-

tated anti-Iraqi British govern-

Britain's ambassador to Iraq,

summoned home in protest at the

hanging, said Friday relations

with Baghdad had suffered a

Ambassador Harold Walker said on arrival in Britain he would

be absent from his post for at

least a few days to discuss the

Relations with Iraq "have

takeo a terrible blow," he said. "I

am back to discuss where we go

The Security Council heard also criticism of Israel's settle-

ment policy in the occupied terri-

tories and Arab Jerusalem from

Arab states and representatives

of the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation during the one-day ses-

Israel called the meeting "the

latest manifestation of the long-

standing campaign against the

Jewish state" and an effort to halt

"all Jewish immigration to Israel,

meeting after israel announced

plans to build housing for new

immigrants, especially those

arriving from the Soviet Union.

See related story on page 2

The Soviet Union asked for the

sion Tuesday.

future of Anglo-Iraqi ties.

ment stand."

terrible blow.



His Majesty King Husseln Thursday confers with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hord in a

meeting attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zaid

Peres races to lead Israel; Shamir party fate in doubt

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Labour Party leader Shimoo Peres raced Friday to form a new government that would advance peace with Palestinians after parliament toppled Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir,

Shamir, 74, faced a challenge for leadership within his rightist . Likud Party from Deputy Prime Minister David Levy after losing a parliament confidence vote 60-55 late Thursday, political

sources said. President Chaim Herzog summoned leaders of Labour and Liked for consultations Sunday to determine which was more likely reach the 61-seat parliamentary majority needed to form a government.

The Yediot Ahronot daily said Shamir was considering retirement from political life following Thursday's defeat, but another newspaper, Maariv, quoted the premier as saying "I see no

reason to resign."
Israel Radioi said Likud leaders met in Shamir's office Friday morning for a discussion of the party's future course. No further details were reported. Top Shamir aides Avi Pazner and Yossi Ahimeir were not immediately

behind-the-sceoes contacts to form a new government, hoping to cash in on the support from a swing religious party that yielded the 60-55 victory against Shamir.

It was the first-time an Israeli premier was formally ousted by a no-coofidence motioo. Past prime ministers have resigned before-a vote was held-when they appeared sure of losing. Sbamir remains caretaker

prime minister until a new government is formed. The process of forming a coalition officially. begios ooly after Herzog appoints a party leader to do so.

Peres told Tel Aviv schoolchildren Friday he believed about 70 parliamentarians would back him in forming a government dedicated to seeking peace with Palestinians.

Labour walked out of the unity government over Shamir's to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposal to enter first-ever talks in Cairo with Palestinians.

Haim Ramon, leader of the Labour faction in parliament,

told reporters Friday:
"I hope we'll succeed to our main aim in toppling the Shamir's government - to tell Baker yes, go to Cairo, hold the historic

Peres, meanwhile, fannched meeting between Israel and the Palestinians and then continue on to bring peace to Israel."

Israelis braced for what could

be lengthy negotiations by both Labour and Likud to woo four religious parties holding the key to power. Formation of the unity government assembled 15 months ago took 52 days.

"We are entering a period of political anarchy," said a Labour political source, noting the difficulty of melding a coalition between parties divided over everything from peace talks to how to

Likud ministers Friday were studying their p after the stunning parliamentary

Shamir faced a challenge from Levy, favourite son of Israel's Moroccaus, the country's largest Jewish ethnic community.

"David Levy has never denied he wants to be prime minister," said Reuven Rivlin, a Likud parliament member close to Levy. A Likud political source added:

"We are talking about the night of long knives." If forced to step down, Shamir

would probably recommend Foreign Minister Moshe Arens,

main problems as: Effects of drought, lack of animal feed, high cost of agricultural production

available for comment." Row in W. Beirut over attack on bank chief

BETRUT (Agencies) — A bizarre row erupted in President Elias Hrawi's government Friday after an attempt by police to arrest the governor of the central bank. Official sources said Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss demanded the resignation of Interior Minister Elias Al Khazen whose bodyguards burst into a board meeting at the bank's west Beirut

headquarters Thursday. The policemen punched and manhandled the respected 72year-old governor, Edmoods Naim, before being driven off by gunfire from security guards. The reason was apparently that

Naim, who keeps a tight grip on the national purse-strings, refused to release funds to the Interior Ministry to buy a fresh stock of blank passports, bank officials said.

Hrawi's government, based in west Beirut, is recognised abroad but has failed to gain control of the Christian heartland where General Michel Aoun and militia leader Samir Geagea are locked in a struggle for power. Hrawi, Naim and Khazen are

all Christians. Official sources said Hoss telephoned Hrawi and said Khazen

should quit the cabinet. Hoss told Hrawi the incident should not pass without punishment of "those responsible who-

ever they were," the sources said. West Bearut branches of some 75 commercial banks closed their doors Priday to protest against the attack on Nam.

Naim, who rarrly leave the bank's beadquarters because of assassination fears, has stood up to pressures from political leaders, including the heads of the two competing governments.

The central bank, one of the last united institutions in a divided country, has blocked

spending it considers unnecessary as part of an austerity policy. The Lebaoese constitution allows only the president to sack a cabinet minister. The conflict, according to cen-

tral bank sources, was sparked by Naim's refosal to allocate £960,000 (\$1.5 million) that Khazeo had requested for printing a million new Lebanese pass-

Khazen had just returned from London, where he made a contract with a British company to print the passports. One source, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity, said Naim wanted to avoid a treasury loss of a half million dollars. A bid had already been received by the central bank from a Swedish firm which offered to print the passports in a much lower price. In Lebanon, the central bank acts as a watchdog against government overspending.

Khazen said after a late-night visit of apology to Naim Thursday: "The incident is over. Its consequences have been solved," But the independent newspap-

er Al Nahar said Naim has decided to sue the interior minister on charges of attempting murder and kidnapping. About 700 central bank employees began an open-ended

strike Friday until "the instigators are brought to trial." The central bank, minutes after Thursday's attack, suspended

foreign exchange dealings.

requirements, a ban on artesian (Continued on page 5) wells and closure of pastures. Carter arrives; formal meetings begin today

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife arrived here from Aqaba Friday evening for talks with Jordanian leaders expected to focus on Middle East peace prospects. The couple was met at the airport by His Majesty King Hussein's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and American Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth.

Carter and his wife Rosalynn arrived in Agaba from Syria earlier in the day and toured the city. They were briefed by officials on the strategic importance of the

Carter, who is scheduled to leave Jordan for Israel Sunday, is expected to be received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, during his stay. He will also hold talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the speakers of the Upper and Lower House of Parliament Saturday.

Carter began his four-country Middle East visit in Egypt. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad told Carter Thursday that a United Nations-sponsored international conference was the best way to achieve Middle East peace.

Assad also blamed Israel for regional instability because of its "negative attitude towards peace," an official said.

Carter's talks with Assad covered international and regional issues including the situation in Lebanon.

Carter told reporters in

Damascus Friday that after talks with Assad he was more optimistic than ever that Western hostages in Lebanon would be re-

"More opportunities exist now for their release than ever before." Carter told a news conference. "I see movement now... better chances than those I have seen for several years." President Assad made it clear

to me... that Syria would do everything possible to help the release of hostages," Carter said. "Syria is exerting good offices to both locate the hostages and convince those who might be

bolding them that hostages should be protected and reeased," he added. "Statements from Tehran are very encouraging... I think there is a growing desire on the part of

the Iranian government and the U.S. government to work out the problems between us." Carter said he supported the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate freely to Israel, but said he agreed with U.S. President George Bush that they should not be allowed to settle in the occu-

pied West Bank, Gaza Strip,

Golan Heights or Arab Jeru-

He said Bush's recent statement opposing Jewish settlement in Arab Jerusalem only restated a U.S. policy "that has existed for 25 years or so."

Carter said the United States still considers the Golan Heights, "annexed" by Israel after its capture from Syria in 1967, to be "sovereign Syrian territory."

علدًا صد الأحل

Chances seem better than ever for release of hostages — Carter

DAMASCUS (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said Friday that chances seem better than ever for the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon and that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad repeated vows to help win their freedom.

Carter made the comments to a news conference in the Syrian capital on the fifth anniversary of the kidnapping in west Beirut of American newsman Terry Anderson, 42, the longest-held of the 18 Westerners missing in

"My own conviction is that more opportunities exist now for his release than ever before." Carter said.

He spoke shortly before leaving Syria for Jordan, the third leg of a tour that carried him earlier to Egypt and will also take him to

Carter said he did not know if there were any secret U.S. dealings on the matter, but noted "there are statements being made from Tehran that to me are en-

"I think now there's a growing desire on the part of the Iranian government and the U.S. government to work out the problems between us and... there's no doubt that Iran has influence on thnse halding the hostages, although not complete control. Beirut newspapers Friday pub-

lished a letter to American hostage Terry Anderson from his wife Madeleine on the fifth anniversary of his abduction in west Beirut Local television stations said

they would later screen a videntape of his 4-year-old daughter Sulome, who has born 83 days after Anderson was kid-

The night before, a pro-Iranian group called Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine released

photographs of two of the three ont a husband or father is not a American hostages it holds. It threatened to kill the bostages. Anderson is held by another pro-Iranian group called simply

Islamic Jihad, or holy war. Meanwhile in Paris, two French former hostages put on blindfolds and chained them-

selves to a tree across from the Iranian embassy to protest the continued captivity of Anderson.
The 42-year-old chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press was seized on March 16, 1985. He is the lnngest-held hostage although some others have been held

almost as long. The letter from Madeleine

"Hello Terry. 1 am always wondering if you have ever been able to read the letters sent to you on different occasions, or even if they were read to you, to let you know how much we love you and how different and difficult life is without you.

The world without God is not the world, it's hell. A home withent An Nahar.

home," it's hell. "I wonder if you know that byan official said Friday. Sulome will be 5 years old in

Tonight a videotape of her will be shown on TV. Will you be able to see it, to see her pretending she is talking to you, thanking you for a make-believe bike pre-

sent you sent her for Christmas" "I wonder and wonder about so many things, but while I am wondering, hope and optimism become my weapon and God is the provider. Please keep your faith in him, my love, and know he never stops working for us.

We are in as much captivity, Terry, only our living space is bigger here and it's shared by millions. I know you will keep well, I know you will never give up. Until we meet again soon. God bless you. We love you," the letter concluded.

The original English text of the letter was published by seven of Beirut's eight functioning daily papers, including the independ-

Libya starts inquiry into Rabta fire

Secretariat (ministry) has opened an inquiry into this week's fire at the Rabta plant, which is de-scribed by the United States as a chemical weapons factory, a Li-

Only the ministry will be authorised to release information about the fire, he told Reuters by telephone from Tripoli.

The fire broke out Wednesday morning. Diplomats said it caused extensive damage to at least one building.

The Libyan authorities have not accused anyone of arson but revolutionary leader Muammar Qadhafi said Thursday that West German business interests in Libya would suffer if the inquiry found evidence that West German intelligence was involved.

Libya says the plant, 80 kilometres southwest of the capital Tripoli, is to produce pharamaceuticals and if it planned to produce chemical weapons, it

information since a Libyan Foreout and no one was injured

would do so openly. Diplomats in Tripoli said Friday they had received no new

ign Ministry official told them Thursday the fire had been put Other Libyan officials have described the fire as serious and said

The White House said Thursday the damage was extensive and the factory was probably out of action

Tripoli was calm Friday after a demonstration about the fire outside the West German embassy Thursday, residents said. The country's only national daily, Al Fajr Al Jadid, carried Qadhafi's warning to Bonn but gave no other details.

West Germany has denied any involvement in the fire. Freelance West German technicians have continued to play a role in the project, despite legal action against several companies accused of supplying equipment to

The fire broke out Wednesday morning, only a few days after the United States called for vigorous action by the international community to stop it making

mustard gas. The Italian ambassador in Tripoli said in a telephone interview be had the impression the plant was damaged but not completely

Diplomatic sources said the Libyans appeared to believe it was West German businessmen who tipped off the rest of the world last week that the plant had produced about 50 tonnes of lethal mustard gas since starting production in mid-1989.

Before Qadhafi's statement, a crowd of at least 1,000 Libyans marched on the West German embassy in Tripoli shouting accusations that West Germans

had started the rumours. "Get out of our country, you lying spies" and "Germans are spies" they shouted. Police protected the embassy and the crowd dispersed without violence.

Several West German companies face prosecution at home for supplying equipment to the Rabta plant.

West German businessmen vere warned several days ago that if the United States attacked the plant, it would mean the end of their business activities in Libya, the diplomatic sources

Last week, the White House declined to rule out any type of action against Rabta, including a military operation.

Libya has offered to cooperate with any international efforts to eliminate all "weapons of total destruction", provided the mea-

sures apply to all nations equally.

The White House said Thursday the United States was in the dark about how the fire started.

Arabs, Soviets condemn settlement.

"We assume it's not functioning," White House spokesman Marin Fitzwater said of the plant

at Rabta. Firtzwater said at his daily press briefing. The United States had no involvement ... no involvement of any kind" in the fire,

which occurred Wednesday. At Thursday's regular press briefing, Fitzwater said he did not know the degree of damage at the

plant. But in an informal talk with reporters afterwards, he called the damage "extensive". He did not reveal the source of the damage assessment.

But he said the United States was in the dark about the origin of the fire.

'We don't know the origins of the fire, we don't know if it was sabotage, we don't have any idea who did it," he said.

At one point, Fitzwater said the fire could have been accidental. "Somebody could have knocked over a kerosene lamp," he said.

Fitzwater refused to comment when asked about an Israeli denial of involvement or a suggest tion Thursday by Qadhafi that West German intelligence agents might be responsible.

Rebels claim 13,000 Ethiopian army casualties

NAIROBI, Kenya (Agencies) — Northern Ethiopia rebels say they have killed, wounded or captured more than 13,000 government troops and damaged several aircraft and tanks in three weeks of

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said in a clandestine radio broadcast late Thursday that 6,500 of the casualties were inflicted between Sunday and Wednesday.

The broadcast, monitored in Kenya's capital, said this week's fighting occurred southeast of Asmara, capital of Ethiopia's

northernmost province, Eritrea. "In earlier engagements in the past two weeks in different parts of the same front, 7,000 dergue (government) soldiers have been put out of action and the dergue has lost three burnt fighter

Eastern Services

picking up the awards again

Eastern bas won the

Golden Award

for the year 1989

Royal Jordanian Airfireight

aircraft carrier vehicles," the

broadcast said. The broadcast did not specify the type of aircraft destroyed, but Ethiopia's air force flies Sovietmade MiG-17s, 21s, and 23s. It was impossible tn independently verify the rebel claims and

the government rarely comments on their broadcasts. "In the last 20 days the dergue

planes, eight tanks and four anti- has lost more than 13,500 soldiers as dead, wounded and captured," the broadcast said.

The rebels, who are fighting a 28-year-old secessionist war, launched their current offensive last month, ending a year-long de factor ceasefire.

The Eritreans claim to have captured Ethiopia's only deep water Red Sea port of Massawa and cut the road from the harbour to Asmara. President Mengistu Haile

Mariam's government has not acknowledged that claim, but admits the port has been closed by fighting it says continues in and around the city. The government is also fighting

second but smaller force, the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF). The Tigreans have been fighting for 14 years and virtually control Eritrea's southern neighbour, Tigre province.

The Tigreans seek Mengistu's ouster and the establishment of a government patterned after that of Albania, the last hardline Marxist state in Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi met his Ethiopian counterpart Mengistu Haile Mariam Thursday to discuss peace prospects in Ethiopia's civil war, Kenyan officials said Friday.

one-day trip to Ethiopia, and Mengistu expressed the hope peace talks would resume soon, but gave no further details. Nairobi hosted meetings in

They said Arap Moi, on a

November, chaired by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, between the Ethiopian government and the EPLF which is fighting for independence in the Red Sea province of Eritrea.

Nn date has been set for a resumption of those talks, but a fresh round of discussions between the government and TPLF is set to start in Rome on March

. Ethiopia and the EPLF appear ready to resume peace talks despite fierce fighting in recent weeks, a newspaper on Thursday quoted Carter as saying.

The Atlanta Constitution quoted Carter as saying formal invitations will be sent in the next few days to Haile Mariam and EPLF leader Isaias Afwerki proposing a resumption of negoti-

Carter, interviewed in Damas cus, said he and negotiations cochairman Julius Nyerere, the former president of Tanzania, were encouraged by (the two sides) commitment to restart talks despite the high level of conflict in recent weeks."

Bonn warns Libya not to threaten Germans

BONN, West Germany (AP) The government Friday warned Libya against threatening Germans after a fire at Libya's alleged chemical weapons plant in Rabta, and denounced any attempts to blame West Germany for the blaze.

"We expect there will be restraint from all threats against German citizens in Libya," said Juergen Chrobog, chief spokes-man for the Foreign Ministry.

Chrobog said be knew of no specific threats against West Germany or its citizens, although an angry crowd gathered in front of the West German embassy in Tripoli Thursday

Libya leader Muammar Qadhafi said an investigation has begun to try to discover whether West German intelligence agents had anything to do with Wednesday's fire at the plant.

West German's ARD television network said Thursday its Cairo office received a statement from a group of unknown Libyan dissidents claiming responsibility for the blaze.

West Germany again rejected any suggestions by Qadhafi that it had anything to do with the fire. "The federal government deeisively rejects the Libvan attempt to blame the Federal Republic of Germany for the fire

at Rabta," said Chrobog. "We especially denounce any attempt to rouse np Libyans against us," said Chrobog.

of Soviet Jews in occupied lands UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Soviet Union and Arab states have condemned Israel's settlement of Soviet Jews in the

occupied territories as a threat to Middle East peace and a displacement of Palestinians. But Israel refuted its critics and said the real objective is to halt all Jewish immigration to Israel be-

canse it fortities and perpetuates the state Arab states still seek to destroy. The U.N. Security Council meeting was requested by the Soviet Union to protest Israel's settling of Jewish immigrants in

the occupied territories and re-

ported plans to locate a massive

immigrant population in the ter-The Soviet Union, Arab Nations and most non-aligned states have protested the practice, saying it changes the disputed area's demograhics; increases the region's tensions and makes a Middle East peace settlement

Palestinians living in the territories, occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, have been rebelling since December 1987 and want to create an independeut state of their own on the land

Those speaking against Israel included the Soviet Union, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Jordan, the Arab League, Senegal, Malaysia and

The meeting was adjourned without a vote and will be con-

tinued at a later date because diplomats were anable to reconcile U.S., Soviet, Arab and other draft resolutions, all of which criticised settlements in the territories in varying degrees of harsh-

The Soviet Union said that despite pressure to balt the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, it could not do so, although it opposed settlement in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and

It said the problem was not for the Soviet Union to restrict emigration, but for Israel to prevent settlement in the territories.

Soviet Ambassador Alexander Belonogov, in his speech to the Council, appealed to the United States and Western countries to ease their restrictions and admit more Soviet Jews so that they would not go to Israel. Most Soviet Jewish emigrants want to settle in the West, not Israel, he

"One sometimes hears appeal to the Soviet Union to stop Jews leaving for Israel," Belonogov said in Russian through a translator. "But we cannot possibly undertake such a step because it would be contrary to our overall course and policy of assuring all Soviet citizens equal rights and freedoms, regardless of nationality or ethnic origins.

"The question is not for the Soviet Union to impose any prohibitions." he said. "The question is that of Israel not allowing its and other citizens to settle in the occupied territories. The responsibility lies with Israel which is violating the provisions of in-ternational law." Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the

Political Department of the PLO. told the Council that massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel was organised by "world Zionism," while millions of Palestinians remained homeless and stateless.

Kaddoumi called on the Security Council to impose sanctions against Israel, like those against South Africa, Otherwise, he said, the Middle East would continue to drift towards another war.

Belonogov and other speakers said Israel is violating the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 covering the treatment of people in occupied territories, which Israel signed. It prohibits movements of population and changing demographics.

Israeli Ambassador Johanan Bein, the acting permanent U.N. representative, told the council "Arab states have conjured up a major diplomatic storm in a world wide effort to block the flow of Jewish immigrants. The real abjective behind this campaign is to halt all Jewish immigration to Israel. Period."

He denied that Israel has a policy of directing Jewish immigrants to the territories.

Between April 1, 1989, and February 1990, 18,200 Jews immigrated from the Soviet Union and of those, only 135 settled in the occupied territories.

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Israel's religious parties emerge as power brokers

TEL AVIV (AP) -- Israel's religious parties emerged as the country's decisive political force as the Likud-Labour coalition finally dissolved in a day that went from confrontation to compromise and back again.

For tension-filled hours, the fate of the government hung on the decisinn of 92-year-old, Lithuanian-born religious sage Eliezer Schach, whose two-seat Torah Flag party could provide the Labour Party with the majority needed to bring down the

When it became apparent that Torah Flag would not support Labour's no-confidence motion Thursday against the Likud-led coalition of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the focus shifted to

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

the six-seat, ultra-orthodox Shas

Party. The Shas spiritual leader, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, received Likud and Labour leaders to plead their cases. One by one, the country's grim-faced leaders made the pilgrimage to Yousel's apartment, dutifully wearing the skullcaps of

religious Jews. In the end, it was the abstention by five of Shas members that enabled Labour leader Shimon Peres to bring down the government of Shamir, head of the ight-wing Likud.

The vote was 60-55 in the 120-seat Knesset, or parliament. Shamir set off the latest crisis when earlier in the week he dismissed Peres from the coalition cabinet. This prompted Labour's

other 10 ministers to resign, bringing an end to more than five years of so-called "national unity" rule.

The reason for the breakup was differences over how to pursue Middle East peace, but the tiny religious parties quickly became more important than larger ques-

Shas and several other religious parties also will now play a critical role in determining whether the next government will be led by Labour or Likud.

The religious parties control 18 of the 120 seats in the Knesset, or parliament. Labour has 39 seats and Likud 40, meaning both must have partners to maintain power. The 10-hour session Thursday was marked by tension and ran-

cor unseen in the Knesset since the twn large parties joined forces. Shamir and Peres exchanged personal attacks and the two parties' backbenchers launched furious volleys of abuse at each other,

After some eight hours of debate, the vote was postponed for more than two hours to enable Labour and Likud leaders to meet with Yosef. A dozen policemen and security agents kept order as a crowd of about 50

people gathered across the street Though Peres eventually won Shas' backing, a small group of the religious party's backers stood outside Youse's house and

booed the Labour leader. The delay in the parliamentary proceedings drew angry rebukes.

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PROGRAM	ME ONE
	Ko
	Programme revi
15:45	Children program
17:30	Educational program
	News summs
	Message from L
	A play by Shakespe
	Local program
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	News in Ara
	Arabic ser
21:30	Programme revi
21:49	Consumer's Gui
22:25	Local programs
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PROGRAM	
17-30	Le Monde est a vi

19:15 19:30

20:00 20:30

21:30 22:00

Feature film:

News in French

News in Hebrew

News in Arabic Didi's Comedy Show

Local programme
.... Classical Music

News in English

Fair (Sourise) Duba

GRUECHES

St. Mary of Negareth Church Sweifleb abiles of God Church, Tel.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. Do la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terranata Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Ans Cherch Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. an Orthodex Church Tel. St. Epitralin Church Tel. 771751. Assumate International Church Tel. 685326.

The Church of Josus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932 WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

easterly fresh causing dust in the east-ern regions of the Kingdom. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and Min /max. temp. 6 / 18 5 / 19

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Aqaba 28. Humidity readings: an 30 per cent, Aquina 20 per USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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MMAN:	
or. Mohammad Imran	653999
r. ksam Abu Rizq	
r. Anwar Musa Al Haj	
r. Walid Smadi	
iras pharmacy	661912
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A Asema pharmacy	637055
inroukh pharmacy	623672
A Salam pharmacy	636730
acoub pharmacy	644945
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Dr. Ali Al Ossari ZARQA: Dr. Rabek Al Borini EMERGENCIES

Civil Defeace Department 66111t
Rescue 63034t
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Back
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police
Public Security Department
Classic Countries of the Countries of th
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints
Amman Municipality
Compleints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance)
Overstax Calls 010730
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Index Television 272141
Jordan Television

Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power 636381 en Alia Inti. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

Hasseit Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalick Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabel Ammas Maternity 642362
Malins, J. Amman
Thirties Charles
Palestine, Sameisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital669131
University Hospital845845
Al-Massher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreca 777101/3
Al Barbin I Adam Fale Processor
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Areal Hospital 674155
ZAROA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
The Circ Hambel (00)000722
The Sine Hospital (09)986732
RBD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275

The Al Nafoes Hospital (02)247100

AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLED QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-

Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia Internations.

Royal Jordanian (PJ) Flights (Terminal 1) oco, Kasia Lumper (IU) Helsinki, Aqsba (RJ) Dhahran, Kuwait (R.)

Bagisdad (IA) ... Cuiro (MS) 10:05 . Riyadh (SU) Kuwait (KU) 13:49 13:45 Tripoli (LN) Rosse (AZ) Dubai, Damascus (EK Paris, Damascus (AF 17:30 DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (PJ) Flights

Other Flights (Terminai 2)

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(Terminal 1)

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)	Dates
)	Eggplant 240 / 18
)	CREATE
•	Compensat
)	Length
)	Lettrace (per one) 120 / 8
)	Marrow (large) 120 / 8
)	Marrow (small) 180 / 14
	Ozion (dry)
	Onion (green) 180 / 14
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	Pepper (hot)
	Pepper (sweet)
	Radian 150 / 10
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ĺ	Someth 160 / 20
	Spinach 160 / 13 Toggetocs 240 / 18

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan takes part in ALO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan participated in the meetings of the Arab Labour Organisation conference which ended in Cairo Wednesday. Ministry of Labour's Secretary-General Salch Khasawneh, who led Jordan's delegation to the conference said that fraqi minister of labour was elected as director of the Arab Labour Bureau and that Jordan was elected as a member of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO). The conference, Khasawneh said, discussed a report from the ALO director-general on the social policies in the Arab World, the employment strategy, integration in the field of labour in the Arab World and rehabilitation and employment of the handicapped.

Apple to hold exhibition

AMMAN (J.T.) — The third annual exhibition for Apple Computer Company will be held at the Marriott Hotel between March 20-22. Apple's agents in Jordan, Ideal Systems Company, will participate. The exhibition, which is held on an annual basis by the company, displays the latest inventions and achievements of Apple Macintosh Computers Company. Specialists from the company and Ideal Systems will provide assistance.

Waha store lottery ends

AMMAN (J.T.) - The lottery for prizes has ended at Al Waha stores. The grand prize was won by Ihsan Abassi. Congratulations from everyone at Al Waha Stores.

Hotel marks anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of 26th anniversary of the hotel the General Manager and Mrs. Majeed Khalil held a cocktail reception on Wednesday at Al Mukhtar Ballroom, which was attended by officials, diplomats, members of the press, businessmen and friends of the hotel in Jordan.

Bulgarian quintet performs in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lovers of chamber music in Jordan have a rare opportunity this week to relish some melodious combinations of traditional and modern pieces from a veteran group from Bulgaria - the Sofia Wind Onintet.

The ensemble, which has won wide international acclaim and one of the only seven such groups in the world, will perform "preclassic, classic, romantic, and modern (jazz)" pieces such as Bach's Suite no. 2, Chopin's waltz, Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the bumbler bee," Jopin's "The Entertainer," and Grieg's "Dance of Anitra."

Visiting Amman upon the in-vitation from the National Music Conservatory (NMC) of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation in coordination with the Bulgarian Embassy in Jordan, the group has scheduled one public performance and a private performance for students.

Flutist Rossista Ivanova, 44, the head of the group, and her four colleagues, oboist Georgi Jelasov, 52, clarinetist Atanas Kolev, 54, bassonist Vassi Spassov, 38, and horn player Alexander Jongov, 28, are all graduates of the Bulgarian State Music Conservatory who got together 10 years ago to set up the Sofia Wind Quiatet after winning international praise for their soloist performances as well as the Sofia Philharmonic and the Bulgarian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra.

Since then, the group hasn't looked back; it went ahead and reaped world.acclaim everywhere it performed, from the European continent to Latin America and

"One common thing that we five share is our dedication to music since very early childbood," said Jelasov, who recalled that every member of the quintet started learning music at such young ages as seven and eight.

"In view of the "special and intimate" cultural relations between Jordan and Bulgaria, the Sofia Wind Quintet is performing in Amman," Jelasov said. "We consider it an honour to perform in the Jordanian captial," he

Some ontstanding comments from music lovers around the world testify to the quality of music flowing from the quintet.
"Masters and virtuosos," that's how an Algerian reviewer described the five. M.Gospopdinov wrote in Sofia's Narodna Kultura that "one can speak of the Sofia Wind Quintet only in singular because the superb ensemble feeling of the five members is a sufficient reason for that."

Another befitting comment has come from a leading Indian commentator, Krishna Chaitanya, who wrote in the Times of India: "The deep and shared interest in exploring the capacities of expression of this grouping of inunfolding music's indication of leading and recessive roles which continuously interchange is acceptable."

David Storther of the U.S. paid tribute to the group as "five people endowed with very high standards of musicianship and warm human qualities."

The group arrived here from Syria where it performed five concerts in one week, two of them transmitted on Syrian Tele-

Having already performed in several other Asian countries, the group will head home from Amman before going to Greece in May and a Latin American swing through Mexico, Argentina, Cuba and Colombia in September to mark the 10th anniversary of its founding.

The public performance of the group in Amman is scheduled this evening at the Royal Cultural Centre. Earlier in the day the quintet performs for a student audience at the same place.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition of plastic artists Arij Al Hamad and Ibrahim Al

* Art exhibition by seven Iraqi artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman

* Exhibition of oil paintings by Jordanian artist Hisham Dgheim

* Photographic exhibition "The Soviet Village on the Path of

* Exhibition of watercolours by Jordanian artist Shaher Al Jarmi

* Art exhibition entitled "Spanish contemporary engravings" at

* Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the Frenck Cultural

* Children's Arabic play entitled "Fables From My Grand-

* Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The Intlinda Between the Political

"All Of Me" at the Philadelphia Theatre - 8:00 p.m.

* German video extitled "Tarot" at the Goethe Institute - 8:90

and the Religious" by Amia Diab at Abdul Hameed Shoman

mother's Chest" at the Royal Cultural Centre - 7:00 p.m.

time and place with the concerned institutions.

Nabalmeh at the Housing Bank Complex.

Perestrolka" at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Foundation (10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

at the Royal Cultural Centre-

at Alla Art Gallery.

Centre -- 6:00 p.m.

the Royal Cultural Centre.



A scene of the phosphate pebbles after the drying process at the Arab Potash Company (File photo)

Potash firm studies expansion possibilities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Potash Company (APC) has re-cently signed contracts with a major investment company to conduct detailed feasibility studies on expanding APC plant's production capacity, according to APC Managing Director Ali En-

Ensour said in a statement on Jordan Television that the expansion project will be carried out in two stages, eventually enabling the company to produce 2.25 million tonnes of potash annually by the year 1996.

The APC plants, located near the southern tip of the Dead Sea, last year produced 1.25 million tonnes of potash which earned the country \$127 million, compared to 1.3 million tonnes which brought a revenue of \$120 million in 1988, Ensour said.

Ensour said that the company, established in 1982, has been able to pay back debts and boost its earnings and profits by increasing potash sales, which accounts for

about a fifth of the country's exports.

Jordan, which has a 54 per cent stake in the pan-Arab APC, began charging fees of JD 3 a tonne last April, but the debt-laden company remains exempt from tax, which is bound to help it make further profits.

Ensour said he expected world potash prices, now at the rate of about \$98 a tonne, to remain

Ensour said that the government has recently set up a ministerial-level committee to study the prospect of establishing new potash-based industries. Snch projects, he said, were expected to boost the company's income of foreign currency and open the door for further employment of Jordanian workers.

Other APC shareholders in-clude the Arab Mining Company, with 25 per cent, Kuwait, Libya, Sandi Arabia and the Islamic Development Bank, holding the rest of the shares.

Ireland marks national day

AMMAN (J.T.)—Every year on March 17, the people of Ireland and all Irish ethnic groups throughout the world, celebrate their national day, St. Patrick's Day. On the oc ary consul in Jordan, Mr. Salim Saad, issued a statement in which he lauded Irish ties with Jordan and the Arab World. Following are major excerpts from his state-

Ireland has long standing and friendly ties with Jordan. Ireland's contacts with Jordan have increased considerably during the past few years. Through its membership in the European Community and activity at the United Nations, Ireland has played part in the efforts to assist in finding solutions to the Middle East

Ireland believes that a just and lasting solution of this conflict must include the rights of all states in the area and the implementation of the right of the Palestinian people to self-deter-mination with the option of setting up an independent Palestiman state.

Irish exports are best known in Jordan for consumers items and foodstuffs. Irish Kerrygold butter, ghee, milk, meats, clothing, veterinary products, pharmaceutical products, manufactured in Ireland, are well estab-

lished. An increasing number of high technology and data processing software have been introduced with a steady flow of exports recorded during the last

Cultural and educational relations between Ireland and Jordan were developed to their utmost during 1988/1989. A number of Jordanian civil servants and high school instructors from the Jordan Ministry of Education have attended courses in different fields of vocational training. The courses were funded by the Irish government and the EC. These projects provided a model for Industrial/Vocational training for Jordan. During 1988/1989, 43 Jordanian instructors were trained by HEDCO. HEDCO was also awarded a major project worth one million ECU to assist Bethlehem University. Financial support for the project comes principally from the EC with cofinancing from the Irish government. The project aims at strengthening Bethlehem University as an institution of higher learning in the service of the Palestinian

On the occasion, there will be an Irish mass at Mount Nebo Shrine in Madaba followed by a reception at the Mount Nebo resthouse from 1g:00 - 20:00

Clarification

AMMAN (J.T.) — In reference to two stories headlined "Jordan stresses interest in promoting in-ternational links" published in the Jordan Times March 13 and another hadlined "Regional IBS meeting open" published in the March 15-16 issue, we received the following clarification, which is reprinted in full:

The International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) is a nongovernmental organisation. based in Geneva.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is an "international" educational system. The IB programme is a two-year course of study at the pre-university level. It therefore covers only the last two year of school, leading to a diploma which is a credential for university admission.

The IB is taught in more than 400 schools in around 60 countries all over the world. There are 13 schools in Arab countries that have adopted the IB system, including the Amman Baccalauroate School (ABS) in Jordan. These schools are independent of the IBO and although they may offer the IB programme, they do not necessarily offer it as the only course of study. For example, the ABS offers both the IB and the Jordanian Tawjihi programme, and students at the ABS choose the programme they wish to study and follow the courses leading to either the IB diploma or the Tawjihi certificate. The Jordanian Ministry of

Education held a conference on the IB (as a system of education) March 12 and 13, 1990. The ministry invited IBO representatives as well as representatives of ministries of education in Knwait, Bahrain, Oman and Egypt to this conference which was held under the patronage of Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath.

While Jordan is a member of the Standing Conference of Governments (SCG) of the International Baccalaureate Organisation, Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath is a member of the Council of Foundation of the IBO on the one hand and is the chairwoman of the board of trustees of the Amman Baccalaureate School on the other.

The IBO is currently holding its Middle East regional teachers workshops at the ABS. Her' Royal Highness Princess Sarvath officially opened the workshops at the ABS March 14, 1990.

Israel government collapse only a stalling tactic for settling Soviet Jews — Arar

AMMAN (Petra) - Recent developments on the Israeli political scene which led to the downfall of the Israeli government are nothing but an attempt to gain time for Israel to absorb more immigrants and avoid any pressure from other countries to stop the process of settling Jews on Arab land, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman Arar said Friday.

"There is no real difference between Likud and Labour, the two political parties in the Israeli coalition government, they are two faces of the same coin," Arar said upon returning here from a meeting in Cairo for the African Parliament Union.

"The collapse of the Israeli coalition government can only give Israelis further time for consultations and a chance to absorb

more settlers," Arar added.

Arar said he was pessimistic about the turn of events in Israel because the decision-makers in the Jewish state are not genuinely interested in the establishment of peace in the region.

Referring to the United States, he said, "U.S. government officials have voiced only slight criticism of Israel's actions but soon afterwards declared major arms sales to Israel." "In the light of these statements no American criticism of Israel's actions can have any value or meaning, he

Referring to the outcome of the meetings in Cairo, Arar said that important questions like the migration of Jews to Palestine were discussed and the conference issued a statement condemning the emigration of Jews which entails grave dangers for the Arab World. The Cairo meeting demanded that international organisations to stop Israel's atrocities and recognise the rights of the Palestinian people.

In a statement while in Cairo, Arar said that the coming few weeks will witness the announcement of a special committee entrusted with the task of formulating the projected national



"The charter, which will be prepared by a group representing all political groups in the King-dom, is expected to provide a wide basis for political action and pave the way for political parties to emerge in the country," Arar

WAJ begins searching for water in southern regions

TAFILEH (J.T.) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) has began exploring for new water sources in the drought stricken Tafileh region, in sonthern Tordan

A WAJ spokesman here said the local Al Harir artesian well which supplies water to the governorate, "is at a dangerously low level and will not be able to supply more than 300 cubic metres daily in the coming summer months due to the poorrainfall this winter season. The WAJ decision was in line

AMMAN (J.T.) — The question

of food supply prices in the coun-

try surfaced once again with an

open dispute between the Minis-

try of Supply and the Jordanian Supply Merchants Association

(JSMA). Association President Elia Nn-

qui said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Fri-

day that if the government insists

on fixing merchants' profit mar-

gins 10 per cent, down from 15

per cent, nearly 90 per cent of

merchants will stop importing

food supplies 'because then there

ways of assisting the southern region, Tafileh, Maan and Karak, which was badly affected by the drought. The government has set up a ministerial committee which is arranging for interestfree loans to the farmers through the Agricultural Credit Corporation and making available water supplies for livestock and domestic use. At least JD 3 million has been allocated for the relief programme in the south, according to government officials involved in

Ministry, supply merchants

would be no point of maintaining

Nuque said the present profit

margin of 15 per cent was barely

sufficient to cover the importer's

expenses for refrigeration stor-

age, bank charges, income tax

He suggested that the govern-

ment announce a fixed policy for

pricing food supplies in order to

avoid the creation of a black market. "A slight increase in

prices are far better than having a

marketing without food sup-

locked in row over prices

their businesses.

and customs fees.

plies," Nuqul said.

with government plans to find

According to Hammad Khreisha, director of the WAJ department in Tafileh, the Harir well which provides water to the Tafileh region used to pump up to 200,000 cubic metres daily. "At present it can only supply up to 800 cubic metres daily and this is expected to drop to 300 cubic metres in the summer," he said.

WAJ will now exploit the reserve well at Zibdeh and Abour and continue to search for new artesian wells, Khreisha said. He added that plans were set for a water distribution programme-

He said the cost of imported

supplies increased by nearly 90

per cent since March 1989 mostly

due to the deviuation of the

dinar, the increase in government

taxes and customs fees, and the

rise in the cost of commodities in

the exporter countries. He said a

government decision to reduce

customs fees would help reduce

Drices.

committee meets

Jordan,

N. Yemeni

SANAA (J.T.) — The joint Jordaniau-North Yemeni higher committee is expected to open a meeting here Saturday under the co-chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani to discuss joint projects and further steps towards integration.

A special committee grouping officials from the two countries started preparing for the higher committee meeting here Thursday and discussed several agreements, programmes and proposed plans which will be tackled by the higher committee in its two-day meeting.

Jordanian official said that the two sides will conclude agreements in trade, public works, electricity, education, culture, health, agriculture and tourism. A working paper on coopera-tion in these fields, the official said, was submitted by the North Yemeni side and approved by the preparatory committee.

Ministry of Supply Secretary-General Radi Ibrahim said that The meeting in Sanaa will be the second of the higher committee which held its first meeting in ministry was committed to helping lower income groups.

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Deadly negligence

THE drowning of a man and his ten year-old nephew in the Dead Sea last week underscores the urgency of providing Jordanian beaches with life-saving equipment and applying certain procedures in order to avoid incidents of this sort. Friday's deaths need not have happened had the authorities concerned paid enough attention to past warnings and the persistent likelihood that such tragedies might occur at any time. Negligence on the part of all those connected with the Dead Sea resort area, nader whose nose the deaths occurred, must not be brushed under the carpet. To begin with, there are always legal implications to every act of negligence which needs to be investigated and pursued, Secondly there is also a moral implication in not exercising a sufficient degree of care and concern over the lives of swimmers and users of Jordan's beaches whether in the Dead Sea area or in Aqaba. There is no way Jordan can develop its tourism industry without a parallel: concern about the fives of tourists, be they local or foreign. How and why the limited Jordanian beaches are left without protection is an issue that warrants a thorough examination and scrutiny.

What exacerbates the situation even more is also the untold stories about the repeated brushes with death mostly in Againg beaches where swimmers often rub shoulders with speed boats cruising the limited beach area and even with divers carrying spears and other potentially dangerous equipment sometimes. There is bardly a beach front in Jordan with towers serviced with life-saving teams to keep an eye on eyen children swimmers. Swimmers not only dip in the waters at their own risk, they are not even warned in advance about their risky adventures. Jordan happens to be blessed with beautiful seas and beach fronts that attract tourists from far away countries. They deserve a much better care than had been provided them thus far. The authorities in charge of promoting and developing our touristic attractions are duty bound to exercise more care and attention about many matters that are taken for granted elsewhere such as life saving measures and emergency clinics equipped with paramedics at least. In this vein it is apsetting and disturbing that none of the members of the Parliament has seen fit and proper to raise such subjects on the floor of the Parliament. Perhaps now and in the aftermath of the Friday tragedy, our parliamentarians would take the initiative to address such mundane vet very important matters in order to ensure appropriate actions against similar accidents in the future.

Jordan Press Editorials

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Friday challenged the Soviet Union to prove its credibility in its dealings with the Middle East issue and to back its words with deeds with regard to stemming Israel's attempts to settle Soviet immigrants in occupied Palestinian land. The paper said that words by President Gorbachev and promises by Soviet officials are not enough; and the Arabs are awaiting real and practical steps to put an end to Israel's arrogance. The paper voiced support for Gorbachev's statement before parliament in Moscow that his country was determined to play a leading role in settling the Middle East conflict, and said this is the first step which Moscow can take in a long process to bring about peace to the Arab region. We are awaiting Moscow's step of ending all emigration from the Soviet Union to Israel until the Jewish state conforms to international will and implemenets U.N. Security Council resolutions and recognises, the rights of the Palestinian people in their own homeland, said the paper. Moscow, the paper added, can regard Israel's insistance on settling the immigrants on Arah lands occupied since 1967 as a pretext to stop the migration of Jews because this is the way to deal with the Zionists who are showing total disregard to Arab rights. We are awaiting such step which is the best proof of Moscow's credibility which, in turn, can rebuild Soviet-Arab relations on a firm foundation of friendship and mutual interest in world peace, the paper concluded.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the question of the national charter which provides an umbrella for all political activity should it acquire public support. Seleh Abdul Samad says that various political groups in Jordan bave been active in trying to explain the real power behind this charter and are trying to give various interpretations for its terms of reference. The writer notes that the government can by no means impose the national charter on the people who will have the right to accept it or reject it. Neither can rejection be considered as a criminal act on the part of any citizen although those who will take part in formulating the charter will represent various schools of thought and different ideologies, Abdul Samad adds. Fie notes also that the Jordanian constitution has the upper hand should therefore serve as the supreme source for all legislations. The writer says the people's will should be respected at all costs whether they approve or disapprove of the national charter, because such respect can only manifest the real face of democracy in the country.

Al Dustour daily on Friday discussed the present media campaign in the West against Iraq for the execution of the Israeli-British spy describing it as hostile to the whole Arab Nation. The paper noted that the Western media are hinting that economic sanctions could be imposed on Iraq for executing the Israeb spy, which demonstrates open hostility towards the Arab people who are trying to defend their interests and protect their security. As we watch with astonishment this hostile campaign begin launched against Irao and the Arabs, we are also stupefied to see Western governments condoning Israel's atrocities in the occupied territories and its daily practice of slaughtering innocent children and women, the paper said. How canthe Europeans defend an Israeb spy proved guilty after he confessed his crimes and remain silent in the face of the daily executions of Palestinian people, asked the paper. The paper said the Arab people can only hope that this hostile campaign against Iraq will stop immediately because it can only damage Arab-European relations. It said the Arab people can only voice their total support and solidarity with the Iraqi people in their continued endeavour to defend their security and pan-Arab interests.

Can we hear the distant thunder?

By Dr. Musa Keilani

THREE weeks ago, some young Muslim militants shouted down a cabinet minister, and forced him to cut short his regular Friday sermon in Amman. A few days ago, a senior official faced something similar when he delivered a talk about Jordan's parliament in future and how democracy should operate in this country.

Those two incidents are indicative of how strong the new Muslim militants have become. Those new groups are not "Ikhwan", or Muslim Brothers. They form various factions which are frequent rivals. They carry different names like "Islamic Jihad — Holy War" or "Al Da'wa - The Call" or "Al Takfir Wal Hijra - Repentence and Flight" or "Hizb Altahrir Al Islami Islamic Liberation Party"

It is to be admitted that the success of "Islamic Jihad" in Gaza during the last two years, and the political repercussions of Hamas and the intifada, have given the militant groups in Jordan strength, encouragement, as well as a badly needed

Emigrating Soviet Jews

say they have no choice

By Emil Varadi

Reuter

BUDAPEST - "At the end you

find yourself sitting on top of

your luggage in an empty room.

Ynu know you have cut all your old ties and a whole new life lies

ahead," said 27-year-old Marina

This is what we call the emigrant

"But inside you are broken.

Marina, a speech therapist

from Moscow, ber husband Oscar

Tredlys, 29, her mother Nina, 51,

and two-year-old daughter Nicole

are among the thousands of

Soviet Jews who have decided to

Interviewed during a stopover

at Budapest, Marina said that

given the choice they would have

preferred a Western Enropean

About two million Jews live in

the Soviet Union and up to

100,000 of them are expected to

"I did not want my child to

grow up in a country where she

was threatened by anti-

Semitism," she said, adding that

She said she also feared that

her child might catch AIDS, as about 80 children had already

contracted the deadly disease

from shared needles in Soviet

And despite President Mikhail

Gorbachev's perestroika reforms.

Marina has no confidence in his

"Last but not least, there is no

"I'm young. I want to live a

future in the Soviet Union, neith-

er in a political, economic, nor

cultural sense," she said.

they even feared physical vio-

country or the United States.

leave the Soviet Union.

most via Badapest,

Prykhozhan.

But a distinction should be made between the "Ikhwan" and those militant groups. The former have been a part of the Jordanian political scene since 1946 whereas the latter started to emerge in the 1980's when the Egyptian violence cloned them here. Both groups derive spiritual and ideological guidance from the Koran, Sunna and the early days of Islam. Both agree that there is no distinction between religion and politics, that the Islamic political system should be ap-plied in legislation; that Islam, the word of Allah, should rule Jordan and the Muslim world. Both groups share a certain revulsion against Western modern behaviour as well as a desire to return to traditional social valves. Both regard Israel as the main enemy. Both see no conflict between Islam and pan-Arabism -- excluding

the Islamic Liberation Party. Last week the "Ikhwan" announced their acceptance of a phuralistic political system within which they are prepared to operate. They condemn violence against Muslims. They

believe in active proselytisation. Their performance in the parliament revealed their moderation and rationality. Their stand against the riots of April 1989 crowned their very special strategic alliance with the leadership. Their MP's vote of confidence in favour of Prime Minister Badran two months ago bought everybody a badly needed time.

In contrast, the militants are aggressive and they do not shy away from conspirational means to reach their ends including violence or attempted coup-d'etat. There was more than one arrest of army officers who failed in their attempts and were found to be Islamic Liberation Party members.

More than one militant go fed up with the mere verbal Da'wa to Islam and crossed over the river in search of martyrdom. One of them was Nasser Al Bayedh, the Jordanian soldier who managed to shoot two Israeli officers and to wound two more on 29th January 1986. He was hailed as the (Egyptian) Salman Khater of Jordan. His father was sur-

prised to see the thousands of Jordanians, who poured to express their admiration for the beoric act of his son — Nasser Al Bayedh.

The young militants point an accusing finger at the "Ikhwan" for their political stands with the regime. They criticise the "Ikhwan's" run-ning of Islamic banks, hospitals and schools. The young militants operate underground in the refugee camps where their cells do not exceed four or five. to evade the attention of the Mukhabarat.

The young militants are well-organised. They have wellprinted pamphlets distributed regularly at university campuses. A monthly newsletter carries their analyses of political developments in Jordan. They consider the resumption of parliamentary life here as a diversionary tactic to silence any talk about high-levelcorruption. Some of the militants' pamphlets expressed anger regarding the "Tornado" arms deal. So far some of them consider a government salary as "unclean." Therefore, they

would prefer - though wellqualified - to do any manual work or business rather than accept a teacher's job in a government school. Some of the young militants go so far as to regard null and void any prayer in a mosque behind an 'Imam" paid by the government.

The Jordanian militants draw their inspiration from two Egyptian fundamentalists: Sheikh Hafez Salama and Sheikh Omer Abdul-Rahman.

It is believed that much of the financial aid to the young Muslim militants comes from their supporters in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain. Those supporters are individuals, and not governments.

But one question has to be asked, who would win in the end: the "Ikhwan" or the militants? All indications point to one fact, that the answer depends on the Jordanian goverament. The "Ikhwan" with their big bloc in the parliament can resist the challenges of the militants as long as they can show certain influence on Jor-

dan's policy. When the "Tkhwan" show more winning to the Sharia, they can remain the dominant force in Jordan. Their political tactic is different from the militants'. Their uneasy pact with the government has to continue. Histoer echelons of power here have to watch where to draw the line. In case of a break up between the "Ikhwan" and the government, there will never be only one loser. It is to the advantage of all sides to maintain this relationship however fragile it may be. It is noteworthy in this respect to draw attention to the "Ikbwan's" version of national charter "Mithaq" announced on the 6th of March, 1990. They officially announced that Jordan's internal security is a holy duty which should be kept, defended and maintained at whatever cost. This line of thought runs diametrically opposite to the young mili-tants' line and their school as preachers of the bullet.

At the moment, the militants' thunder is distant, but we should never be deaf to the distant thunder.

Why fight a war that is over?

The following article by Professor Ghassan Salameh appeared in the London-basic Arabic daily, Al Hayat, on Feb. 2,

ANYONE watching Afghanistan can be excused for concluding that the Arabs are still fighting a war that has ended.

Arab regimes, or some at least, joined the Afghan war ostensibly in defence of a Muslim country invaded by foreigners, an Islamic society on which an atheist system was imposed, and a geographical entity whose occupation brought Soviet power closer to the warm waters of the Gulf. For these religious, political and strategic reasons, most Arab regimes denounced the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and some provided immense military. financial and diplomatic aid to various mujahedin groups, while sending thousands of 'volunteers" to join the fight against the Russians.

Although this war is over, some Arabs are still waging it. The Afghan war changed fundamentally some time ago, but some Arab governments still act as if it did not, as though they are fighting the same battle in 1990 that they were in 1980.

And as what Pravda has called the "internal Afghanistan" meaning Azerbaijan - crupted, the primitive and incorrect notion harboured by some Arab regimes about the inherent wickedness of the Soviet Union seems to have become stronger. Those who joined the war in Afghanistan, and devoted massive pobtical and

economic resources to it, are clearly liable to find themselves facing the prospect of squandering all those efforts, as circumstances in Afghanistan change and others begin reaping the rewards of the Arab involvement on the

side of mujahedin. At the risk of over-simplifying. one can say that the fight against the Soviets has been replaced by a vicious Lebanese-style war. It is a great danger for these Arabs to keep treating the Afghan question as a matter of mujabedin versus Moscow. It has become a civil war, if not entirely, then for the most part.

"It is a great danger for Arabs to keep treating the Afghan question as a matter of Mujahedeen versus Moscow. It has become a civil war, if not entirely, then for the most part."

The first consideration must be the Peshawar-based interim government which most Arab regimes recognise as the sole repre-sentative of the Afghan people. In reality, this government has from the outset represented-Pakistani interests much more than it has the various sectors of the Afghan population. Secondly, one must consider the sims and capabilities of this government. Those who think their only aim is to expel the Najibullah government from Kabul, or that they are capable of doing so if it

In practice, because they are the intermediaries for arms and money, because their popular base inside the country is phoney, because they are the puppets of their host state to a certain extent, the "leaders" in Peshawar are rivals and adversaries ... as in Lebanon, the transformation of these warlords into "ministers" has led to understandings between them at the expense of the common good, while their internecine wars rage in the streets. They are also from the Sunni sect, while the Shi'ite groups operate out of Iran. The sectarian division is extremely sharp. The Peshawar "government" accuses "its Shi'ite citizens" of concluding a deal with the Russians and Najibullah, finalised when Raf-sanjani visited Moscow last year, under which Iran and the USSR and their respective representa-tives — the Iran-based Afghan

rebels and the Najibullah govern-

ment - would cooperate to pre-

vent the Peshawar government from taking power. Alliances of

was, must think again,...

opposites, or rather a succession of evet-shifting opportunist alliances, is - we know from Lebanon — a characteristic of civil wars, not wars of libera-

Pakistani and Arab backing for the Hekmatyar and Sayyaf factions has already begun produing a reaction among various trial groups in the country, which have started complaining about "excessive Arab interference" in intetnal Afgban affairs. This threatens to jeopardise Arab interests, unless the Arab governments concerned seriously reconsider this war and their role in

The Arab governments involved have an alternative. They can start a serious dialogue with Moscow about the best solution being constrained by past policies or rigid alliances. They must draw a clearer distinction between Arab interests and those of Pakistan nn the one band, and the policies of the various factions on the other. Arab interests are also distinct - and this must be emphasised with even more clarity - from those of the United States. The Americans behave according to the rules of the cold war, which they believe may stop at some stage, but at least they should be - about ending the Afghan war as soon as possible. At present, the only losers in the continuation of the conflict are the unfortunate Afghan people.



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

unavailable as flights from Moscow to Budapest are booked solid 18 months ahead. But a friend helped us," said Oscar. The family left behind a tiny flat in a typical concrete block in northern Moscow. It consisted of a small room, a miniature kitchen and a narrow bathroom.

normal life. I want to see the

world. I want my mother

and child to have a normal life. I

want to earn a proper salary for

Oscar, who performed the offi-

cial paperwork for the family,

said they had to fill in forms

listing their places of work 15 years back and had to provide

All Soviet citizens who want to

The discharge from Soviet

citizenship cost Marina's family

700 rouhles (\$1,100) per person.

Air tickets to Tel Aviv cost 729

"Air tickets were practically

emigrate must produce written

consent from their parents.

my work," she exclaimed.

data on their relatives.

roubles (\$1,145) each.

emigrate to Israel this year -Oscar's relatives live in Haifa, where the new arrivals, like other They arrive in the Hungarian immigrants, expect to be given capital on trains or by air carrying Hebrew lessons for six months "everything except the furniture" paid for by the immigration and wait a day or two to board a

flight for Tel Aviv. Marina admits she may have "Life became terrible in Mosproblems finding work as a cow. In the shops there was nospeech thearapist but Oscar, a thing but the lamps shining into telecommunications specialist, empty deep freezes," Marina bas a better chance of finding similar work.

Back in the Soviet Union, fearing that security conscious Soviet authorities might stop him leav-ing, Oscar quit his post at a state telecomunications company and took a less sensitive job a year before filing emigration papers. He says be would not like to live in the occupied territories,

against Israeli occupation. "I would have the feeling that I was not living in my own country, but on alien territory," Oscar

where Palestinians are revolting

But asked if they would go back to the Soviet Union if they did not like life in Israel, they both answered without hesita-

'No, never."

Public transport in Jordan — brickbats and bouquets

Buses — a story



Souring prices have pushed private cars beyond the reach of many in Jordan, and the obvious choice is

'Reckless driving'

Complaints about "irresponsi-

hle" driving of taxi drivers is an

issue which not only bothers their

passengers but very often drivers

taxi today and I am going to send

a letter to the traffic department

against him," said an angry pri-

vate car driver. "He almost

rushed me off the road only to

pass a red bight; it was unbebev-

A frequent user of taxis main-

tained that taxi drivers "do not

abide by the minimum rules of

time I come out of a taxi ride

'Change'

change. Many people complain

that taxi drivers do not carry

enough change. Some even sug-

gest that some drivers make it a

ploy to get away with more than

nearest. 50-fils equivalent of the

meter reading. For instance, if

the meter says 510 fils, it goes

without saying that the driver

"Of course, there are also

observed a seasoned taxi

others who will only take 500

But not having the exact change could be really frustrating

at times when a passenger is

pressed for time and he has to go

around trying to change his JD 5

One way to address this prob-

lem, says a driver, is that the

passenger should inform the driv-

er that he or she is carrying a "big

This will help us stop at a

Although taxi drivers come

under heavy criticism over many issues, one of the heaviest critics

added a good word in their

"To their credit, as God. is

witness, they are honest. Most of

them return valuables left in their

cars to their owners or hand them

over to police stations," he said.

"This is definitely the best trait

gas station or shop to get change if we do not have enough on us,"

As a rule, most drivers take the

Another problem is of exact

"I count my blessings every-

able," he said.

safe," be added.

the actual fare.

takes 550 fils.

be said.

driving.

"I took down the number of a

of others cars on the streets.

Taxis — in need of a break

AS IN any other capital, taxis have become an essential part of life in Amman. But, the problems encountered by taxi users are many, ranging from difficult street addresses and unclean vehicles to lack of exact change. Nermeen Murad

AMMAN — With the skyrocketing prices of cars, many Jordanians have turned to the relatively cheaper means of public transportation, taxis, to travel within the capital and other cities in the Kingdom. Using taxis, however, is not without its problems for many of those who use them.

CAR HATTER

One of the most pressing problems faced by taxi users in Amman is that they have to give the driver route directions to their destination, rather than the driver knowing how to get there. When I first came to Amman.

I would get into a taxi and give the driver an address. Most of the time he didn't know how to get me there so I would get out and try another taxi," said a working

In many cities of the world, a total stranger has only to carry an address and be home safe. In England, in particular, drivers take intensive courses for two. years before they are licensed as taxi drivers.

The president of the association of owners of public transportation cars. Abdullah Al Oaissi, told the Jordan Times that taxi drivers in Jordan have only to ass a regular driving test.

Although Quissi understands the need to train taxi drivers in the names and directions of streets in the capital, he maintains that this training can only be done if the Licensing Department at the Traffic Department makes it a prerequisite.

Qaissi suggested that books which carry maps of the different parts of the capital should be given to would-be taxi drivers to study and a test should be conducted before a driver is licensed. But, he added, "it would be very difficult for the drivers who make their livelihood out of this joh

Although many people who ride taxis realise that the drivers almost always need directions from the passenger "we cannot blame them because even we do not know the names of the streets we are living in."

Most of the capital's streets do have names which were chosen carefully by the Greater Amman Municipality "but they are difficult names and usually people know the road by a completely different name," according to

Abdullah, a daily user of taxis. cites an example. "Take for instance Garden's Street. We all know it as Garden's Street but it has a completely different name that apparently no one knows," he pointed out.

Sana Atiyeh, a journalist, says: "I don't have an address, when I fill forms that require one I always write that it is behind a well known gas station,'

According to some others interviewed by the Jordan Times, this problem 'is not limited to taxi drivers. We should all take. lessons on names of streets."

If the problem may seem to many as a hinderance to proper tourism facilities, since tourists would not know how to give directions, "we have very few tourists and taxis do know where to take them," was the comment of a long-time resident of Am-

Most tourists to the Kingdom travel to well-known areas such as Jerash, Petra, Madaba, and other historical monuments or well-known hotels, he pointed

Cleanliness

The issue of taxis transcends the seemingly minor problem of the drivers' awareness of route directions. Many Jordanians as well as guest workers interviewed by the Jordan Times have more complaints about the driving mannerisms of taxis as well as the general cleanliness of the car

"I have often started getting into a taxi and wondered whether my suit will stay clean after I sit on these seats," said a businessman. He insisted that taxi drivers are responsible for the cleanliness of his person and his car. "In Japan, taxi drivers wear gloves and wear clean uniforms," be

"The driver should ensure that the seats of his car are always clean and leave no marks on the clothes of people who ride with him," Nada, a secretary, main-

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of clogged gears

PUBLIC transportation is a problem discussed at length at homes, at work and at meeting places among all generations, particularly by those who are not fortunate enough to own a vehicle. In the main, people criticise the authorities for failing to establish a reliable and efficient public transport system that could serve the public at large. The authorities in turn plead inability to come up with overnight solutions to the problem, whether in the availability of vehicles or in time-tables or routes. However, the authorities affirm that they are indeed working on the problem, but cannot say when definite solutions will materialise, Saeda Kilani reports:

IT's 11.00 a.m. on a cold Wednesday morning. A red and white bus screeches to a halt at a Wadi Seer bus stop. No, it is not one, there are at least two others behind, with numbers indicating that all are on the same route. That's not enough, there are serveral service taxis trailing behind them. Everyone is happy; the buses have come after a wait of almost an bour.

But, they are all over-crowded, which doesn't actually stop the impatient crowd from shoving each other and squeezing themselves into the vehicles, hefore the driver closes the door. They force their way through the crowd, trying to get the most comfortable position and settle for the ride to downtown.

"I would love to take the bus to work on time as it is the case in many developed countries," says Mohammad Smadi, who, in his capacity as general secretary of the Ministry of Transportation, is one of Jordan's key men to find a solution to the problems plaguing public transportation. However, Smadi admits, "the problem is not simple; it's not just adjusting time-tables or routes. It's a problem which warrants a comprehensive approach... starting with collection and processing of actual information on the requirements of the

At present, the Ministry of Transportation is in the first phase of the process, Smadi told the Jordan Times. It is collecting all necessary information related to key routes, number of expected passengers at given times, frequency of buses, flow of traffic etc. and feeding this information into computers. This pro-cess is expected to be completed in six months, according

However, computerising information, though essential, could only solve a minor part of the problem. Proper time schedules, for instance, are "still a far-away goal which can be almost impossible to achieve in the inside routes of Amman," explains Samir Al Sunna, acting director and deputy director of the transportation department.

"Timing needs priority for passage of buses as well as stops," he says. "The narrowness of almost all routes inside Amman, especially downtown routes, do not permit priority for buses, particularly that the

system is centralised; direction of all buses is from and to

downtown" Marwan Al Kheetan, director of the transportation and employment department at the ministry, also points out to the complexity of this problem. "It would be better for us if it is possible to apply a strictly en-forced time-table inside Amman, but it is practically impossible. There are bundreds of taxis and service taxi drivers who park their cars in place of bus stations downtown. In addition, the area provided for buses is limited and the roads there are narrow," be said.

Proper time-tables can be and are applied outside the capital — Madaba, Zarqa, Bagaa and Salt since "there are no traffic problems. The roads do not pose any effective problem," according to Kheetan.

However, the absence of precise timings of buses has resulted in pitting the public on the one hand and the competent authorities on the other. Two employees in a bank

along with others in a bas station downtown complained of the daily overcrowdedness and the insufficiency of buses on their line. "Every day, we wait for at least an hour for a

cited by the authorities as the main obstacle in bus to take us from Jubeiha to downtown," said one of them. "First of all, we do not know when to expect a bus. Then when one turns up it's full. Sometimes two or three huses come together after an hour of wait," he added. "The situation is no different when we

wait downtown to return

bome. It could be really

annoying and frustrating after

six hours of hard work at the

Narrow streets and heavy traffic in the capital are

"One sometimes gets fed up with the same problem of overcrowdedness and the struggle to get in, whether in rain or in the heat of the sun. Sometime we are forced to take a taxi. but then it is a burden on us. particularly now when the cost of living is on the rise."

Passengers are not the only ones who have complaints; the authorities have their own grievances starting with "abuse of our vehicles by commuters." Kheetan says that approximately 140,000 people travel on the Public Transport Corporation's 260 buses operating on 91 lines. And the entire system is based on the flow of traffic on each line. Apart from that, Kheetan attributes the major part of the problem basically to lack of cooperation between the private and the public sectors, and to the 'irresponsibility and manipulation" of private sector bus operators. Basically, he says, the num-

ber of buses on each line is determined by the estimated flow of daily passengers after taking into consideration the availability of private sector buses on the same ronte. "What happens actually," he added, "is that whenever

there is an occasion of some sort, like a scholastic trip or a wedding, the buses of the private sector are hired for a whole day, leaving a vacuum and imbalance in the overall daily system." Accordingly, some of the

government buses are moved from one line to another to make up for shortages, and that leaves gaps in the original routes from where they are "The problem cannot be

solved unless the two sectors work out on a plan together; and this takes time for planning and execution," according to Kheetan. However, when everything

goes well between the two sectors, overcrowdedness is still witnessed in many areas,

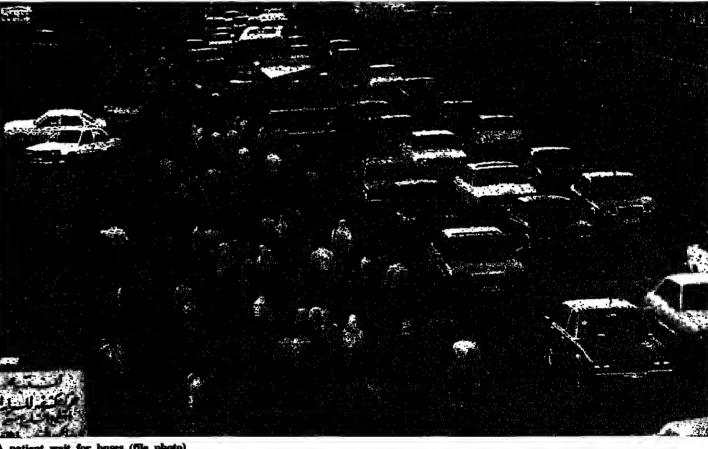
"Well, what is to be done when we order, for example, five buses and sometimes more, in a row to leave at \$:00 a.m. heading for the university from every line, and still they are crowded and many are left behind. It's just because all of them take the bus at the same time which constitutes another problem," complains Kheetan.

drawing up a strictly enforced time-table for

public transport buses (Photo by Saeda Kilani)

The non-existence of strict time-tables and the subsequent overcrowdedness have evoked outrageous behaviours and reactions from the public. One notices in most of the bus stations few people respect the quene system.

"One waits for so long to go back home and it will be unfair for another to just take his place... and that is wby I rushed in that manner to the bus," said a rider on a crowded bus after leading a long struggle to get in the bus. Another one who fought and managed to get in, though he was the last to arrive, said: "Who knows when another bus will come; it may be ten minutes or an hour... and if I waited, it is possible that the waiting crowd would even be more thicker than it is now... and everyone fights, why not me?"



A patient wait for buses (file photo)

STUDIO HAIG

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MARKETPLACE

eres races

(Continued from page 1)

64. as his successor. Party chairman Ariel Sharon, the 62-year-old leader of Israel's 1982 Lebanon invasion, is widely seen as having little chance of succeeding Shamir so soon after paitting the cabinet last month over the peace moves.

the altra-religious Agudat Israel Party, which abandoned Liked for Labor because Shamir bowed to powerful U.S. Jewish leaders and refused to toughen a law on who could call bimself a Jew.

"We vote no-confidence in Shamir," said rabbi Menachem Porash of Agadat Israel, refusing to rule out support of an alterna-tive Liked leader.

Religious parties, often guided by bearded sages in black coats, are traditional kingmakers in Israeli politics, offering support in return for government cash for their schools and stricter public observances of Jewish law.

Israeli Labour Party for its wilinguess to talk peace with Palestinians .

ber of the PLO Executive Contmittee, told Renters the collapse of the Israeli coalition government would force israel to choose bewith the PLO.

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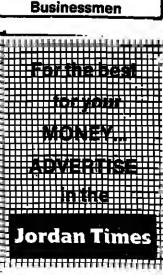
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OPEC appears split over higher oil prices

VIENNA (R) — OPEC ministers preparing for talks in Vienna appeared split Friday on how high to send oil prices in a sellers' market which beckons in the

Oil Minister Fawzi Shakshouki of Libya, a traditional price militant, said he wanted a target of at least \$20.

Iraq also said it preferred prices to be above the present declared target of an average of \$18 for a barrel (42 U.S. gallons) in the spot market.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) tries to control pricing by assigning production quotas to its 13 membes so as to throttle supply. A strong rebound in world

demand from the glut of the 1980s has helped lately to raise ruling prices above \$18. And in a reaction that has

augered the OPEC majority, Kuwait, an advocate of low prices as a tactic to accelerate the recovery of demand, has been exceed-

Its minister, Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah, who drove to Vienna from Hungary where he was pursuing a sales blitz in Eastern Europe, is an record as saying he felt no obligation to keep to the rules while prices exceeded the agreed target.

Another small and affinent Gulf Arab monarchy, the United Arah Emirates, also calls present price levels "ideal" and has opted out of OPEC's quota system.

Other cash-pinched members with less surplus production capacity will press in Vienna for a halt to the quota-busting.

Their delegates cite a forecast by the OPEC secretariat that demand for cartel oil may slip by some three million harrels daily to 20.8 million in the traditionally weak April-June quarter of the

Gulf sources say the Kuwaitis seem in no mood to turn down the taps unless the potential excess supply causes prices to weaken worldwide refining system that can make money ont of cheap crude.

Several ministers said no decisions on a new prices target would be taken in the talks due to start Friday which are officially only a session of the market monitoring committee.

"What we are saying is that the present agreement ought to be adhered to until May," said Iraq's Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalahi. OPEC sources said the minis-

ters will try to lay the basis of a deal to be struck at a conference due on May 25 which will set policy for the rest of the year. The recovery in world oil demand, which saw U.S. imports from OPEC rise 25 per cent in

motoring season. Kuwait has argued that OPEC will soon no longer need quotas, which have been employed to defend prices since 1982.

lines and writing off useless

1989, is expectted to resume in the

northern summer, the peak

Arab funds detail needs to bolster Arab economies

ABU DHABI (R) — Arab fi- Inter-Arab Investment Guarannance ministers have heard a gloomy report on their economies at their annual meeting.

The head of the five main Arab money and development funds gave their reports to ministers of the 21-nation Arab League at the meeting in Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

"Economie development in Arab states shows that most of our countries are suffering from domestic, and external economic imbalances," UAE minister of state for finance and industry, Ahmad Al Tayer, said in an opening address.

Declining gross national Pro-duct (GNP), increasing balance of payments deficits and external debts, lower oil earnings, overreliance on the public sector, and plain bad management had led to the decline, the heads of the five funds said.

The five funds are the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), the

tee Corporation (AIGC), the Arab Fund for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAID), and Arab Bank for Development in Africa (ABDA).

Osama Jaffar Al Faqih, cchairman of the Abu Dhabi-based AMF, said Arab Nations' deficits had persisted despite rising deficit-financing lons from the AMF since it was established in

"As we look to the past decade, we see that it has left clear traces... weak economic growth, worse foreign debts, and domination of the public sector," he said.

"Arabs need intensive efforts to redress the imbalances in their economies that obstruct development. They need to boost savings and upgrade financial and banking systems," he said.

Abdul Latif Hamad, head of the Kuwait-based AFESD, said a drop in Arab oil earnings over the past decade to \$64 billion from \$213 billion, and a drop in

billion over the same period, had been a severe blow.

"This has reflected badly on Arab savings which fell to 15 per cent of GNP from around 30 per

cent in the early 1980s," he said. This has made Arab Nations incapable of meeting their international financial obligations," he added.

We must say that if we want to achieve the objectives of our development plans, we should be inclined to change, including changing the structure and management of our economies," he

The heads of the five funds all announced improved profits, and an increase in loans in 1989, but some complained about outstanding debts.

The ministers are due to announce the formal inception of a new \$500 million Arab trade fund to help boost inter-Arab trade, which is at a very low eight per cent of total Arab trade.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MARCH 17, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Getting a right start today largely depends on first deciding what conditions in your life need to be modernised and to study ways to uncover the specific means by which this can be easily accom-

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Pleasure you have been anti ing of a social nature will occur a little later on. Many short trips with attachment can make this a happier day.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Both longtime friends and newcomers can fill your social horizons now. Be sure now to make positive attachment is comfortable at your GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You

will be clever in siding a good friend with an emotional problem today. Much happiness is yours through quiet romance with mate. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A day for much social happiness with several good friends. Entertain prosperous friends at your residence today. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Men will aid you now in enjoying the social activities that mean the most to you. New interests should be encouraged in association with

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You will have your best of

Serene Young herring Alumnus for

figs 58 Balm 59 Lager 60 Old dagger 61 Full of Ille

DOWN

1 Assign roles 2 Wingtike

Madrid 27 Land

cerriages 33 Antiered

times with relatives and clinging friends now. An unexpected event will bring more happiness between you and mate.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Encourage social contact with persons who have different background than your own. Go along with changes that are swiftly taking

place at your dwelling. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Cultivate an attractive couple socially to whom you are drawn. Go along with attachment's ideas if you want real happiness.

SAGTITARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You will have you best times at group activities at this time. You are the one now to take action for establishing real harmony at your home.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You see fine ways to make your home more comfortable and operative. An unusually happy time for you and your mate. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A warm and magnetic ere should now be in your home. Talk out in an objective manner about all present issues with your attachment.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Accept family suggestions in your daily activities. Encourage considerable activity of all kinds at home for both you and your mate.

Tadiran reports \$100m loss

TEL AVIV (R) - Tadiran, Israel's troubled military electronics conglomerate, lost more than \$100 million in 1989, a company

spokesman said Thursday. He said the loss, five times the

stocks. Total sales were \$850 million last year including \$350 1988 figure, was largely due to the cost of closing production million in exports. Tadiran General Manager

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, March 15, 1990

Amman Financial Market

weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the

Sectoral trading:

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession

on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

1.1820/30

1.6980/87

1.9125/35

1.5148/55

35.25/30

5.7375/7425

1253/1254

152.15/25

6.1470/1520

*6.5755/5*805

6.5070/5120

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO -- Share prices were easier in modest trade at the close

as selling pressure overwhelmed periodic buying by investment trust funds and other investors. The Nikkei index fell 55.20 to

HONG KONG - Stocks closed softer in see-saw trading on a

widespread belief that interest rates would be raised later in the

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed mixed on reduced volume

after selective buying alternated with profit-taking. The Straits

BOMBAY - Fertiliser, cement and steel stocks gained on hopes of excise relief and price decontrol in the budget due on Monday.

The Bombay Stock Exchange index rose 7.38 points to 686.29

FRANKFURT - Shares closed mixed in quiet trading, with

investors still cautious before East German elections Sunday

Dealers reported no selling pressure and little buying interest. The DAX index rose 10.33 to 1,889.69.

ZURICH - Shares closed slightly firmer, helped by a small rally

late in the session. Overall volume was light. The Swiss

PARIS - Prices ended down but above the day's lows in a quiet

market awaiting the outcome of Sunday's East German elections.

LONDON - Shares were sharply higher in active late trading,

with the market responding to positive corporate news. A firm performance by the FTSE futures market also underpinned the

rise. At 1643 GMT the FTSE index was up 29.1 at 2,264.0.

NEW YORK - A firm bond market and futures-related buying

drove blue chips sharply higher by late-morning. The Dow was

performance index closed 1.3 higher at 1,002.5.

The CAC-40 index ended down 5.65 at 1,958.82.

day. The Hang Seng index fell 6.35 to 2,886.46.

Times index rose 1.95 to close at 1,570.99.

after a two-day slide.

up 20 at 2,716.

One ounce of gold 399.25/399.65

March 10-14

JD 793,077

2,574,193

2,973

JD 3.965.384

JD 1,875,295

JD 1,051,772

(26.5%)

(25.0%)

(1.2%)

136.8

64

10

42

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Italian lire

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Swiss francs

previous week;

Daily average

Total volume

Total shares

Industrial

Financial

Service

Insurance

Share price index

No. of companies

One Sterling

One U.S. dollar

Price movement (rise)

(decline)

(stable)

No. of contracts

671.0 1079.3 1085.8 392.3 394.7 440.4 443.0

Central Bank official rates Ispanese yen (for 100) Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian lira (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10) 440.0 442.6 348.3 350.4 108.4 109.1

Gourion Meltzer told a parliamentary committee Wednesday the firm would soon submit a new recovery programme to its creditors.

March 3-7

JD 989,964

2,099,500

JD 4,949,818

JD 2,707,907

JD 1,469,709

(54.7%)

(29.6%)

(13.7%)

(2.0%)

137.3

70

12

49

Former General Manager Yossef Maayan resigned last week after failing to get more credits from banks or worker support for the recovery plan.

Tadirau a much-needed \$50 million short-term loan, saying a previous recovery plan was not serious. Management was forced to delay payment of salaries.

Israeli banks have refused

"The new plan includes a sharp cut in wages, dismissal of workers and assets-selling," Meltzer told the committee.

Study urges scrapping curbs on Third World textile exports

BRUSSELS (R) — The West is holding up the development of the Third World by limiting imports of textiles and should scrap such bans by the year 2000, a new World Bank study says.

"Tariffs and trade restrictions on textiles cost developing countries about \$8 billion a year," said Carl Hamilton, editor of the study

Western Europe and North America negotiated the curbs in 1974 to give their textile industries time to adjust to competition from developing countries. The so-ealled Multifibre

Arrangement was supposed to be

temporary, and it is high time to

start dismantling it, Hamilton told a news conference to mark The study was issued to coinfour-year round of world trade talks involving countries.

The Uruguay Round negotiations, named after the country where they were launched in 1986. are aimed at setting international trading patterns for the 21st cen-

They are held under the auspices of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and are due to end in Brossels next Decem-

Textiles are set to be the most important single item on the agenda for developing countries, contributor Martin Wolf said.

"Textiles are always the historic starting point for industrialisation," he said. Exports of cloth and clothing enable Third World countries to get up the first rung of the ladder to development, he added.

He proposed a 10-year phasing out of curbs on exports, with guarantees that the process be irreversible.

Hamilton added he was worried the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe might squeeze Third World textile exporters to the European Community within the next decade.

He expected countries such as Poland, Czecholoslovakia and Hungary to benefit from privileged access to the current 12nation European Community.

Textile prices in the West could come down as a result, but less developed countries might not gain in the process, he said.

Vatican expects largest deficit ever in '89

VATICAN CITY (R) — The Vatican said Thursday its projected 1990 deficit would be a record \$86 million and made a pressing appeal to Catholics around the world to help raise

more funds. A statement released after a meeting of the committee of cardinals who oversee the Vatican's finances said it expected income of about \$66.5 million and expenses of \$152.4 million, leaving a deficit of about \$86 million.

its projected deficit for last year. The Holy See's budget covers the church's administration, including its departments for social. religious and diplomatic affairs around the world, its daily news-

This was \$8 million more than

paper and radio station. It does not include the budget

to run the Vatican City, a sovereign city-state within Rome, or assets of the controversial Vatican bank, which was involved in a major scandal connected with the bankruptcy of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano in

Although the Holy See's budget has no relation with the years after the scandal.

The statement said the Vatican's deficit had grown despite an

Vatican bank, contributions from the faithful dropped for several

"unavoidable policy of austerity" carried out by its staff. It reminded hishons around the

world that canon (church) law

obliged them to do as much as possible to help fund the church's central administration.

The cardinals thanked Catholics who had given more in recent years but said they had to make "another - particularly pressing appeal so that such collaboration generously intensified."

The cardinals' statement said the Holy See would try to apply an almost \$9 million surplus from the budget of the Vatican City to the overall church deficit and dip into "Peter's pence," a collection made in Catholie churches around the world for the Pope's

Before the Holy See began running large deficits in the 1980s, Peter's pence was tradi-

tionally destined for missions and charitable works. In 1989, Peter's pence amounted to \$48 million and was used to cover that year's deficit.

Later this week a Vatican committee is expected to announce a new director-general for the Vatican bank, which underwent structural changes last year following the Ambroisano scandal.

The appointment of a noncleric will formally end the bank's relationship with U.S. Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, its controversial president who was accused by Italian magistrates of being partly responsible for the Ambrosiano crash.

Marcinkus has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing.

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THE Daily Crossword by Victor Jambor Jr.

37 Mich. St. team 39 Ring out 40 Actor Delon

47 Steed 48 Raced 49 "The More 43 Polly or Edgar 45 Apple drink 50 Nipa palm 51 Region: abor. 52 Swirt 55 Wapiti

Japan's trade surplus may grow from \$7.57 billion a year earlier.

TOKYO (R) — Continued strong imports and weak exports saw Japan's trade surplus narrow for the tenth straight month in February, but many economists say future drops should be less

"The best numbers in terms of

improvement are probably be-

hind us," said Kenneth Courtis, senior economist at D.B. Capital Markets (Asia). Fehruary's customs-eleared trade surplus fell 31 per cent to an unadjusted \$5 billion from \$7.24

billion a year earlier, the finance ministry has announced. Februry'a trade surplus decline was less than analysts had predicted, due largely to a maller-than-expected drop in

Many economists had forecast drop of three per cent or more in exports, after they fell 3.8 per cent \$18.62 billion in January from \$19.36 billion a year earlier.

But exports in February shrank by just 1.9 per cent to \$21.96 billion from \$22.38 billion a year ago, the fifth consecutive month Imports, pushed up by higher oil prices, gained by 11.9 per cent to \$16.95 billion from \$15.5 bilhon a year ago.

Japan's overall trade surplus fell 89.5 per cent in January, the biggest year-on-year decline since June, 1979. "(Fehruary's trade figure) con-

firms that the January figures were a complete aberration," said Paul Summerville, the economist at Jardine Fleming Securities' Tokyo branch.

Imports in February increased at their lowest rate since September, Summerville said. Japan's trade surplus with the

United States in February fell 29 per cent to \$2.96 billion from \$4.18 billion a year ago, but due mainly to large decreases in transportation, electrical goods and general machinery exports, analysts said.

They said lower exports stemmed mainly from sluggish U.S. demand, as well as from gradually growing production of Japanese goods in U.S. plants.

Exports to the United States fell 5.9 per cent to \$7.12 billion

"Exports to the U.S. were weaker in those sectors that are a reflection of the weaker U.S. economy," Summerville said. .

High oil prices in February, the highest since March, 1986, helped boost Japan's overall import bill. The value of crude-oil imports surged 43.9 per cent to \$2.31

But many analysts said oil was likely to become less of a factor in enlarging the import side of the trade equation as the effect of an oil import tariff levies in August. 1988, disappears, analysts said.

On the export side, a higher dollar has depressed the value of Japanese exports in recent months. But some analysts believe a pickup in U.S. demand later this year could fuel higher export volumes.

"In general the trend is toward smaller drops (in the trade surplus) and reversal next year," said Jan Vandenberg, an economist at Merrill Lynch Japan. Some analysts believe the weaker yen is likely to make Japanese exports more competitive, pushing export voluumes higher, by the second or third quarter of this calendar year.

And the stronger dollar, which has gained five per cent against Japanese currency since January, could make U.S. imports more expensive and less competitive. economists said.

At the same time, a slowing in the Japanese currency since Januarv. could make U.S. imports more expensive and less competitive, economists said. At the same time, a slowing in

the Japanese economy later this year could see import demand fall off, Courtis said. Robust demand in Europe and a weak yen is likely to see Japan's surplus with the EC rise. Japan's surplus with the European Com-

in February to \$1.88 billion from \$1.89 billion. "We're set for a significant expansion of the trade surplus with Europe in the year ahead," Courus said.

munity fell by a slim 0.5 per cent

THE BETTER HALF By Harris HARRIS 2-16 *

'it's an apology from the guy who issued us our marriage license.'

JUMBILE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lea one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. INWET ر دوروز میداد) کار ۱۳۵۵ - ۱۳۵۳ کار KICCH FRIMIN SHE WENT TO SOME LENGTH TO CHANGE THIS. HELBED Now arrange the circled letters to Print answer here: (

(Answers tomorrow) Yesterday's Jumbles: LINEN ANNUL ENCORE HANSOM Answer: What that blackquard was— A HEEL WITHOUT A "SOLE"

Swissair boosts profits, predicts tougher times

ZURICH (R) — Swizerland's national airline Swissair Thursday reported a 24 per cent jump in net profit to 94.7 million Swiss francs (\$62.3 million) last year but said it expected tougher times ahead.

Chief executive Otto Loepfe said business boomed in the first nine months of 1989 but had since declined due to dearer fuel, adverse currency exchange rates and increased competition.

"In the short term we can expect tougher times ahead in the air transport field," he told a news conference. "But I am convinced we can build on the solid basis we have created, and I am confident we will be able to turn

in another satisfactory result for 1990 as a whole."

ders would receive a dividend of 40 francs (\$26.3) per share, up from 38 francs (\$25) last time. Loepfe said 1990 would be a year for consolidating coopera-

lines. Swissair has swapped or agreed to swap five-per-cent shareholding stakes with Singapore Airlines. Delta Air Lines of the United States and Scandinavian Airline System (SAS), and also

The airline said its sharehol-

tion pacts set up with other air-

has an eight-per-cent holding Austrian Airlines. Swissair shareholders will be asked to subscribe to a rights issue of new shares to help finance these stake purchases. Loepfe said these partnerships

were essential if Swissair was to safeguard its position in the liberalised and fiercely competitive air travel market of the 1990s. While optimistic about Swissair's outlook, he was gloomy about prospects for European

congestion and air traffic control problems. "Even an optimist would have to admit that the story will be much the same this year," he

passengers bedevilled last year by flight delays caused by sirport

He estimated such delays cost Swissair 80 million francs (\$52.6 million) last year in extra fuel, flight hours, overnight accom-modation, and other charges. Finance director Peter Nydeg-

ger said Swissair planned invest-

ments totalling 4.2 billion francs (\$2.8 billion) over the five years from 1990 to 1994. Company officials declined to give the price for the recently agreed sale of the airline's 17 hotel Swissotel subsidiary to

Japan's Aoki Corp, a construc-

tion and hotel group. The airline wants to spend its money instead on cooperation with other airlines.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dutch soccer fans sentenced

AMSTERDAM (AP) - Two Feyenoord Rotterdam soccer fans were sentenced to juil terms of 10 and seven months Thursday for harling explosive devices into a group of rival spectators. Dutch television reported. The two fans, aged 18 and 19, were also ordered to pay up to \$753 in compensation to 15 people injured in the blast, according to the television report. The semences were among the heaviest ever meted out to soccer heoligans in this nation which is internationally notorious for its fan violence problem.

Becker named 1989 player of the year

MIAMI (R) — Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion Boris Becker of West Germany received 1969 player of the year honours at the ATP awards dinner Thursday night. The 22-year-old world mamber two, who won five singles titles and posted a 14-3 record against other top 10-ranked players, earned the top individual award by a vote of the ATP's 500 members. In addition to his two sends dear the latest Parket Parket. members. In addition to his two grand claim titles last year Becker won the year-end Masters Crown and led West Germany to a second successive Davis Cup title over Sweden. American Michael Chang, whose ranking jumped from 30th to fifth in the world last year, was named most improved player of 1980 Change beauty improved player of 1989. Chang became the youngest make ever to win a Grand Slam tournament with his stunning French Open title at 17.

Soviet Union to playin World Cup

MOSCOW. (R) - The Soviet Union are unlikely to be thrown out of the World Cup finals in Italy because of problems caused by the formation of a breakaway Soviet Professional league, International Football Federation (FIFA) officials said Thursday. FIFA General Secretary Joseph Blatter and Pablo Porta, head of its judicial committee, told a news Blatter and Pablo Porta, head of its judicial committee, told a news conference they were concerned at the problems facing the Soviet federation caused by its conflict with the Union of Soviet Soccer Leagues. The officials also rejected a bid by the Georgian Federation for International Recognition, the official TASS news agency reported. The two FIFA officials said they had met the head of the Georgian Federation and the senior coach of Dynamo Thilisi, one of two clubs which recently pulled out of the recognised Soviet First Division, to try and resolve the problems currently afflicting Soviet soccer. They explained that the problems in the Soviet Union had to be resolved by the Soviet Soccer Federation, because this was the organization recognised by FIFA since Federation, because this was the organisation recognised by FIFA since 1946, and not by the newly-formed Union of Soccer leagues which was not recognised by FIFA. Last month, the Georgian federation voted to take no part in the Soviet soccer championship starting in March because they said the recent outbreaks of violence across the country threstened the

GOREN BRIDGE

E

y •5

WAIT YOUR TURN

Both vulnerable. South deals. NORTH QQJ1092 # 98 WEST EAST ' 4 K Q 10 6.5 ♥ 8 7 4

AJ7 North 1 4 2 NT Pass Pass 3 NT

SOUTH

Opening lead: Jack of O Everyone is familiar with holdup plays by declarer, especially with only one control of the enemy suit. But the holdup is a technique available to the defenders as well, and can be just as effective with two

stoppers in the suit.

Since South's jump to two no trump describes a hand of defined pattern and strength, it is not foreing. North's decision to go on to game is borderline, but within

The jack of diamonds by West was a perfectly normal opening lead. Declarer won and immediately attacked hearts. West followed with a low heart when first the suit was led and, to all intents and purposes dummy was dead. Declarer had no way of collecting more than one heart trick, so at trick three South tried the club finesse. That lost and another diamond came back. When the clubs failed to break, declarer was held to one spade, one heart and three tricks in each minor for

down one. Had West won the first heart, the defense would have collapsed. Declarer would have taken the diamond return in hand and led another heart, eventually forcing out the remaining stopper. The king of diamonds would still have been on the table as an entry to the hearts, and declarer would have ended up scoring one spade, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs—just enough to land his

Here's your lesson for the month-one which could make your bridge endeavors a lot more profitable. Bear in mind that most techniques available to declarer can be used equally effectively by the

Sabatini still no. 1, but not the only

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida (AP) — While defending champion Gabriela Sabatini may be the top seed among women, much of the fans' attention will be focused on a match between two Florida teen-agers at the \$2.5 million international players cham-

Thirteen-year-old Jennifer Capristi played Luanne Spadea, 17, Friday afternoon in centre court. That match is the third of four matches scheduled for that

Sabatini, ranked no. 3 in the world, has drawn a bye for the opening round. Other top seeds for the women are Zina Garrison, Monica Seles, Manuela Maleeva and Conchita Martinez.

Last year, Chris Evert made her final appearance in a pro tournament in her native south Florida. She lost a three-set final to Sabatini.

No. 1 Steffi Graf remains sidefined with a broke thumb and no. 2 Martina Navratilova is taking a

If Capriati defeats Spadea she would again face no. 10 Helena Sukova (seeded sixth). Capriati defeated Sukova 6-1, 6-4 in the quarterfinals of the Virginia Slims of Florida.

In the meantime, the Florida. teen-agers are certain to draw the ion's share of first-day attention.

Baseball unions reach agreement

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball owners are expected to make a new proposal in talks with the players' union Friday, and management's chief negotiator said he believed it

"At some point time... you have to sit and figure what is the very best we can do," management negotiator Chuck O'Connor said Thursday. "I. tell you as honestly as we can,

"That's neat, I've never played Jennifer," said Spadea. "It will be

Spadea, ranked oo. 202, won the USTA of key Biscayne, her first pro title, by beating Patricia Fy in the final here two weeks

The next day, a tired Spadea lost in the qualifying round at the Virginia Slims of Florida. Spadea won her first match and lost the

"I was a little worn out from all the tennis that week," said Spadea. "If my second qualifying match had been another day, I might have won."

The men's field is the strongest ever for the Linton international players championship.

Some notable absences from the top 20 players are John McEnroe (groin injury), Michael Chang (hip injury), and Mats Wilander (who withdrew for personal reasons). Jimmy Connors, who has slipped to no. 24, will be out with a wrist injury.

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this is what we have done. ... It is not just another proposal." Negotiations broke off March 7 and the American and National leagues are expected to announce that opening day, scheduled for April 2, has would result in an agreement. been pushed back.

Talks stalemated over the issue of salary arbitration for players with between two and three years of major-league The union has asked that

> management wants the level for arbitration to remain at three years and countered with a \$4-million bonus pool.

"It is substantial and beyond what the industry has seen before," O'Connor said. O'Connor said the six-own-

half of them be made eligible;

er player relations committee would return to New York and meet Friday morning prior to the negotiating session, scheduled for the afternoon at the anion's office

There are some areas we need to finalise", O'Connor said. 'There are some areas we are discussing with the union as we speak.'

O'Connor said that revenue sharing, which the noion strongly resists, would not be part of the plan. Other than that, he said: "I'm not going to

get into the details." "We are trying to put our best foot forward with this proposal," O'Connor said.

We are holding nothing back. We are trying to address the needs of a 700-man bargaining unit, not just the needs of 40 or 80 people....

: "We have put together what we believe to be the most generous economic package for baseball players in the history of this collective bar-

In addition to salary arbitration eligibility, the sides also are part on the minimum salary and the benefit plan. The union is asking for a

\$105,000 while management is offering \$90,000.

Cascarino to make debut, **Aston Villa stays ahead**

LONDON (R) — Irish international striker Tony Cascarino makes his debut for Aston Villa Saturday as he side battle to stay ahead of Liverpool at the top of the English Soccer First division.

But manager Graham Taylor, seeking Villa's first league title in nine years to make up for the disappointment of being knocked out of the F.A. Cup by second Division Oldham Athletic, was keeping quiet about who would make way for Cascarino.

"You will just have to wait and see," said Taylor after signing Cascarino for a record \$ 2.3

Villa, who have lost there of their last four matches, travel to Derby Saturday, a day before Liverpool, just two points behind in the standings, meet Manches-,

CHELTENHAM (AP) — Age caught up with Desert Orchid

Thursday. The 11-year-old Grav.

Britain's most popular thorough-

hred horse, ran out of stamina in

the most hyped race of his career.

included queen mother Elizabeth

and with millions more watching

on television, "Dessie," re-

nowned for his jumping prowess

and winner of 31 of his previous

60 races, managed only third place in the \$160,000 Cheltenham

He simply couldn't stand the

Norton's Coin, a 100 to 1 oot-

sider, became the longest-priced

winner in the 66-year history of

the Gold Cap, regarded as the purists' race and second only in

British steeplechasing prestige to

Ridden by Graham McCourt

and owned and trained in Wales

by cattle farmer Sirrel Griffiths,

Norton's Coin was third at the

last of the 22 fences but jumped it

cleanly and stormed to victory.

hind, Toby Tobias came home

second at 8 to 1 with Mark

Three-quarters of a length be-

the Grand National.

Gold Cup.

In front of a packed crowd that

'Dessie' upset by outsider

ter United at old Trafford.

Ian Ormondroyd, successfully switched to the wing by Taylor this season, was left out of the villa side for the quarter-final cup tie Wednesday, which Oldham won 3-0, but said he did not expect Cascarino will be a direct threat," Ormondroyd said. "I've been operating on the left-wind side so maybe Ian Olney is more at risk.

Injury could keep Manchester United's Welsh striker Mark Hughes out of the side against Liverpool — the first game he would have missed since return-ing to Manchester united nearly

two years ago. Hughes, who came back from Barcelona at the start of last season, pulled a calf muscle during the 0-0 draw against Everton

Pitman on board. Desert Orchid

and jockey Richard Dunwoody

were four lengths further back.

Nine other horses started the

Priced at 10 to 11, Desert

Orchid was the hottest Gold Cup

favourite for 15 years as he

attempted to become only the

sixth horse to win the 31/4-mile

Everything looked good as De-

ssie floently moved into his

trademark front-running style

and set the pace. He brought a

roar from the stands as be took

the third fence from home still in

race twice.

the lead.

We will give him every chance but when mark goes off injured you know it is something serious," said Manager Alex Ferguson whose side are dangerously close to the relagation zone.

Chelsea, which midfielder John Bumstead making his 300th appearance, seek to extend their unbeaten run of six league and cup wins, at Arsenai Saturday.

England midfielder Steve Hodge, who twisted his ankle 12 days ago, is in line for a recall to Nottingham Forest for the trip to. Charlton, who look certain to go

down to the Second Division. "It doesn't take an Einstein to work out that it's looking bleak now," said Charlton manager Lennie Lawrence. 'We had a little revival but we haven't scored in our last three games and we've ground to a halt again."



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The Spanish Embassy in Amman has two vacancies: one at the Residence and the other at the Chancery with the following characteristics:

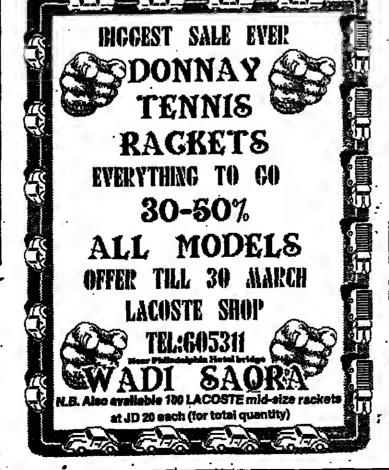
First vacancy: Caretaker and cleaner. Second vacancy: Gardener and cleaner. Salary: Assigned by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Working hours: Six days up to 48 hours weekly. Requirements: 1. Former experience for the work required. 2. Knowledge of English and Arabic. Merit: Knowledge of

Petitions should be addressed to the Spanish Embassy; P. O. Box 454, in writing, within three

weeks from this date. For further information please call telephone number: 655889.

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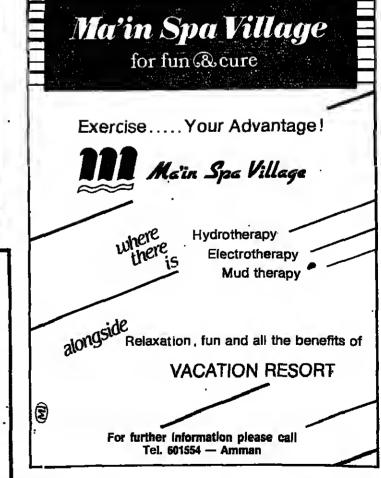
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Deputies differ on how well Gordachev will use his power

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet lawmakers knew Thursday they had hended even more political power to Mikhali Gorizchev, but there was less certainty he would use it well to reform the country.

Top officials loyally praised the election of Gorbachev to the Sovie: Union's first executive presidency as a major step toward democracy.

But some members of the Congress of People's Deputies, the national parliament that elected Gorbachev cresident Wednesday, said he had acted indecisively in the past and would have to show an "iron fist" to make his programme work. Others were afr. d of just the opposite — that he would be too ready to wield his new cowers.

Their differences reflected the wide diversity of opinion cutting through Soviet society as a whole.

There was a surprisingly low vote total for Gorbachev: Nearly 500) occurres voted against him, and he received only about 200 votes more than he needed out of the 2,245 deputies.

Gorbachev has managed to restore many political freedoms, leading to the Communist Party's agreement to give up its monopoly on political power, but the economy has worsened considerably during his five years in pow-

Nevertheless. Communist Party politburo member Yegor Ligachev, who is widely regarded by reform-minded Soviets as perhaps the most conservative member of the party's ruling body, called the election "a ma-

jor success."
"This is a truly positive development, especially at a time of party and social renewal, when both the party and society are undergoing transformation," Ligarder told the TASS news

MUELLE DE LOS BUEYES,

Nicaragua (R) — Sporting new uniforms and equipped with

sophisticated communications

gear, contra rebels inside Nicar-

agua say they are not prepared to

disband until the Sandinista

"As long as the Sandinista

array and the Interior Ministry

ferces are intact there won't be

democracy in Nicaragua and

there won't be peace in Central

America," said rebel commander

Denis Galezno Cornejo, known

armed in order to guarantee all

that has been achieved." be told

reporters this week in remote

Jhonay, the younger brother or

contra Commander-in-Chief

Israel Galeano, said he commanded 4,000 rebels, some of whom

remained in camps inside Hon-

duras. He said he had received

military training in thhe United

He gave reporters a communi-

que signed by a contra wing

iccom as the "Nicaragean In-

hills of sontheast Nicaragua.

"We are going to remain

as Comandante Jhonny.

Armed Forces do so.

Leonid Abalkin, Gorbachev's point man on economic reform, and his military chief of staff. Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev, joined in

presidential form of government. "I don't see any another person who could take upon himself such a historic mission," said writer Chingiz Aitmatov.

praising the establishment of n

Other deputies took n dimmer view of Gorbachev's election and his prospects for reforming the

Deputy Anatoly Alexeyev of the Caspian Sea region, said he voted for Gorbachev but that he was going to have to get much tougher on his countrymen to pull them out of ethnic disputes and economic failure.

"We need an iron fist," Alexavev said. "That's what I think, and s lot of other deputies

"If he continues to run his policies softly, nothing will

work," Alexeyev said. Deputy Yevgeny Kogan, a man for Russians who live in Estonia, said he voted against Gorbachev because he was doing nothing to keep Estonia from breaking away from the Soviet

"What would you do if a state decided it was leaving, and the president didn't take any measures to stop it?" he asked.

In the republics, which Gorbachev pledged to keep in the Soviet Union, independenceminded activists were a little more positive about the election.

"It's important for us to have a person who can stabilise the Soviet Union," said Mihhail Bronshtein, an Estoniaa econom-

Sandinistas must disband before

ternal Resistance," previously

unknown but not a renegade out-fit in view of their sophisticated

The communique told Nicara-

guans to be alert against Sandinis-

ta efforts to reverse last month's

election, in which U.S.-backed

candidate Violeta Chamorro de-

feated the Sandinistas' President

It appeared unlikely that the

rebels would be disbanded by

April 25, the day Chamorro takes

Ortega, Chamorro and region-al leaders have called for the

demobilisation of the U.S.-

backed contras, who have fought

an eight-year war against the

Sandinista government.
Ortega said the continued pre-

sence of the contras would

threaten a peaceful transition of

power but be has promised to

hand over authority even if the

After her victory, Chamorro

But Jhonny said that if the

said the causes of the contras'

rebels are not demobilised.

struggle had disappeared.

we do, contra commander says

equipment.

Daniel Ortega.

ist who is part of the brain trust pushing that Baltic republic to-ward independence. "To live next to an unstable Soviet Union

is dangerous for everyone." The election of Gorbachev was a good thing, said Vaidotas Antanaitis of Lithuania, because, "he's more-or-less democratic."

Moscow deputy Ilya Zaslavsky said he found both bed and good in Gorbachev's election. Gorbachev will "start to strengthen his personal power, which is bad, and start to break up party pow-

er, which is good."

Igor Shamshev, a deputy belonging to the opposition inter-regional deputies group, said that Gorbachev apparently had lost both the votes of conservatives and liberals in the balloting, but "still the centre turned out stronger than the extremes.

Leaders congratulate Gorbachev

World leaders congratulated Gorbachev Thursday following his election to the Soviet Union's new and powerful post of president, and they hailed its implications for their relations with Mos-

U.S. President George Bush sent a letter "wishing him well as he leads the Soviet Union into the next stage of perestroika and democratisation," said White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwa-

He added that Bush is looking forward "to their forthcoming summit in June as an opportunity to broaden the already considerable elements of cooperation be-

tween our two countries." Enrique Baron Crespo, president of the European Parliament. said in a message to the Soviet leader that his election "comes at a time of great opportunity for the establishment of peace and democracy throughout Europe."

contras were disarmed and dis-

banded the new government

would be under the constant threat of a coup by Sandinists

against the new government from one day to the next," he said.

America that the Sandinistas

would not stage a coup against

Chamorro has said she will

reduce the size of the Sandinista

army and Interior Ministry

forces, which, with militias, total

Members of her National

Opposition Union (UNO)

alliance have said they will abide

by the Nicaraguan constitution which says the Sandinista army is

the country's only armed force.

include contra army members in

her government, Jhonny said she

would not have been elected

held because of the armed strug-

gle made by us, the combatants, he said.

stranded in

dangerous

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida

(AP) - An uninsured \$150million communications satellite

stranded in a dangerously low

orbit appeared to be a loss Thurs-

day as engineers tried desperately to boost it to n higher orbit.

The Intelsat VI satellite was

until March 25 in its present orbit

before it plunges back through

Earth's atmosphere, said Maj.

Thomas Niemann of the U.S.

sary to place the satellite in a stable higher orbit where it could

remain indefinitely," said Dean Burch, director general of Intel-

However, Niemann said it was

uncertain whether the satellite

could survive more than a few

weeks even in a higher orbit.
The 5-ton satellite was propelled into space Wednesday at a

cost of about \$270 million in the

fourth commercial hunch of a

particled by a U.S. company.

Whoused sp in the wrong orbit
share thing to separate properly
frum the second stage of its Titan

3 booster rocket. The satellite

was separated about seven hours

later by computer commands sent

from Intelsat's beadquarters in

But the rocket motor that was

to have boosted the satellite into

higher orbit remained attached to

the second stage booster.

Washington, D.C.

"We are taking all steps neces-

Space Command in Colorado.

low orbit

"Those free elections were

Despite Chamorro's refusal to

the new government.

an estimated 100,000.

without them.

Satellite

Ortega said this week in South

"There would be a coup d'etat

This situation is itself a product of your own ambitious progrural poll ramme of reform and restructuring," he added in the message sent on behalf of the European Community's legislative assembly

in Strasbourg, France. "The European Parliament is ready to play its part in strengthening relations between the Soviet Union and the European Community," he said, inviting Gorbachev to address the Parlia

Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa welcomed Gorbachev's election in separate messages of congratulations.

"I am convinced that your appointment to this respectable but at the same time respsonsible post will meet a very favourable reception in Poland," Jaruzelski wrote in a lengthy message car-ried by the Polish News Agency (PAP).

With great understanding and frank sympathy, we observe the process of a versatile political, social and economic rebuilding and the dynamism of the Soviet Union's peaceful foreign policy,"

Walesa, in a telegram released by his office in Gdanak, wished Gorbachev the "best of luck," and said the new post reflected an "expression of trust" in the Soviet leader's reforms.

In one of the first commentarics in the Polish press, Soviet affairs specialist Leon Bojko said the vote represented a "breakthrough" in history of Russia and the Soviet Union.

Now power is accumulated in the hands of one man, but for the first time this is constitutional power resulting from the law and within the law," Bojko wrote in the Thursday edition of the pro-Solidarity Gazetas Wyborcza.

Soviet Georgia wants talks on

MOSCOW (R) - Soviet Georgia into the Soviet Union in the 1920s as illegal and says that like Lithuania it wents talks with Mos-

ndependence

cow on independence. The Georgian Supreme Soviet made the appeal in a declaration adopted on March 9 and published in a copy of the local official newspaper Zarya Vosto-ka, which reached Moscow Fri-

The Georgian Supreme Soviet wants to begin negotia-tions on the establishment of an independent Georgian govern-ment, because it considers the 1922 USSR agreement regarding relations with Georgia illegal, the declaration said.

The statement, which follows campaigns for independence in the Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, is the latest challenge to Prresident Mikhail Gorbachev

A top Georgian deputy reached by telephone in Moscow, where he had been attending the meeting of the national parliament, told Renters Friday that Georgian leaders wanted "talks along Lithuanian lines" with the central authorities.

Violence, rigging mar Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Rival groups with guns and home-made bombs have killed one woman and wounded nearly 500 other people during Bangladesh rural elections this week, police said. Bangladeshi and foreign moni-

toring groups said ballot stuffing, ng of ballot boxes and under-age voting were rampant despite strong presence of security personnel at polling stations.

The latest violence was reported from Hathazari subdistrict in southern Chittagong area where two powerful members of the ruling Jatiya Party were the main contestants

The incumbent sub-district chairman of Hathazari, Istiya leader Wahidul Alam, told reporters armed men burst into voting centres, tore np papers, threatened poll officials and pushed three vehicles into a

"Many voters ran away for fear of their life. Others who stayed were told that all the votes were cast by 11 a.m.," Alam said. Election officials earlier told reporters the presence of minis-

ters near polling stations pro-voked tension and even helped to neutralise security measures. One woman died and about 500 people have been wounded in sporadic violence since Wednes-

than 100 people have been arrested. The election is seen as a test case for President Hossain Mohammad Ershad's commitment to fair elections but moni-

day, police told reporters. More

toring groups said there was rigging.
"There was evidence of rigging and ballot piracy," Father R. W. Timm, president of the Coordina-

Bangladesh, told reporters. Police and witnesses said violence forced the suspension of polling in more than 50 centres but a senior police officer played down the problem.

S. Korean cabinet resigns SEOUL (R) - The South Ko-

rean cabinet resigned Friday. clearing the way for President Roh Tae-Woo to reshuffle the government's inner circle, probably Saturday, a government

The resignations were tendered at a special cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon, who is expected to keep his post. Under South Korea's presidential system, Roh, elected to a set five-year term, names the cabinet.

No other details were given but another government spokesman said the president might announce the new cabinet Saturday.

State radio quoted unnamed senior officials as saying the reshuffle, involving nearly two thirds of the 26-member cabinet, would be the biggest since Roh took power in February 1988.

All key economic ministers, including Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Cho Son, Finance Minister Lee Kyu-Sung and Trade Minister

Han Senng-Soo, were expected to be dropped, the radio and local

newspapers report. They said Roh was expected to replace Interior Minister Kim Tae-Ho but retain Prime Minister Kang and Foreign Minister Choi Ho-Joong to stress continuity in

major foreign policies. The current economic team led by academic Cho has been criticised by top politicians and business leaders for failing to stop a decline in the growth of the South Korean economy.

Sonth Korean economic growth slowed to an estimated 6.5 per cent in 1989 from more than 12 per cent reported in each of the three previous years.

The local press expected Cho to be replaced by Lee Seung-Yun, a former finance minister and a leading figure in the government party.

Lee favours a high level of export-driven economic expansion while Cho has concentrated on a more equal income distribution and on fighting inflation.

Taiwan opposition denied meeting with president

TAIPEI (R) — Military dragged 14 leaders of Taiwan's fledgling opposition party kicking and screaming from the presidential palace Friday after they were denied a meeting with President Lee Teng-Hmi.

The group, including 11 Demo-cratic Progressive Party (DPP) members of Taiwan's National Assembly, the party's chamman and the secretary-general, shouted and streggled wildly with club-toting police at a side entrance before they were ejected. DPP Chairman Huang Hein-

Chieh fell to the ground and was hurt during the fracas, sparking "You are the enemies of the people of Taiwan," assemblyman Hung Chi-Chang yelled at the

police. Meanwhile, in a legal set-back. Taiwan's grand justices Friday ruled the DPP national assemblymen could legally be denied voting rights in the assembly if they continued to refuse to take an oath of allegiance.

The 11 DPP members, the only opposition in the 752-member electoral college, have been blocked by riot police from taking their seats for the past four days. They have refused to swear

allegiance to the "Republic of China," the official name used by the Nationalist government, changing their oath instead to read the "Republic of Taiwan." The Nationalists fled to Taiwan

after the Communist victory in China in 1949 and still claim to be the rightful rulers of all China. The National Assembly, which will decide whether to give a new six-year term to President Lee on March 21, is under increasing fire for what sppears to be a last-ditch attempt to expand its powers.

With no opposition present, the assembly's screening committee has shoved through a number of controversial bills this week which would boost assemblymen's pay, allow them to meet once a year, prolong their terms and even allow them to introduce legislation.

New president takes over in Brazil BRASILIA (AP) — Fernando prise — not the state — to create Collor de Mello took the oath as Brazil's first popularly elected president in 29 years and pledged sweeping reforms to end corruption and inflation.

In a brief ceremony before a packed gallery at the white twindomed national congress Thursday, Collor de Mello swore to protect and defend Brazil's con-

"I declare empowered, from Mar. 15, 1990 to Jan. 1, 1995. President Fernando Collor de Mcllo," said Senate President Nelson Carneiro. The guests applauded and sang the national anthem.

Collor de Mello, at 40 Brazil's youngest president, promised to reverse the country's unprecedented economic crisis. "Infla-tion is enemy no. 1," he said. "My presidency will wager everything on victory against this social

He pledged to combat "corruption and prevarication, paid idlers who see the state as a source of personal or family gain."

The new president said Brazil would streamline and modernise Brazil's heavily state-controlled economy and welcome foreign investment.

"I believe it's up to free enter-

wealth and make the economy dynamic," he said. "We have no colonial prejudice against foreign capital."

Expectations that the new pres-

ident would take drastic measures to cut Brazil's \$31-billion budget deficit have sent shock waves across the country. The government moved Wednesday to stop n frenzy of last-minute financial speculation and sent police to crack down on illegal price hikes, labour unions threatened to strike if wages were frozen.

Collor de Mello indicated Thursday he intends to pay off Brazil's \$114-billion foreign debt, but said the country's growth comes first. "We don't want con-frontation," Collor de Mello said. "But the question is how much we can pay after we guarantee our economic growth."

Protection of the environment also will be a priority, Collor de Mello said, but added that industrialised countries must help. "The military expenses of

northern countries would be enough to clean the Earth," Collor de Mello said.

Eighteen heads of state or government attended the ceremony, including President Fidel Castro of Cuba and Daniel Ortega of

Nicaragua and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain. The United States was represented by Vice President Dan Quayle. Also in the galleries were the

presidents of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguny, Chile, Vene-zuela, Bolivia and Peru.

"My first commitment - inalterable - is to democracy," Collor de Mello said in his ingugural speech. "My election is a symbol of civil liberties."

After the ceremony, Collor de Mello rode along the esplanade of ministries to the presidential palace in a black 1953 Rolls Royce convertible, a gift from England's Queen Elizabeth II. He was accompanied by a whiteuniformed colour guard on white horses.

Thousands of people lined the ronte, cheering and waving green-and-yellow Brazilian flags and banners saying, "a new Bra-zil." Collor de Mello stood and waved to the crowd, and many broke through the cordors to accompany his car.

At the presidential palace, Collor de Mello strode up the white marble ramp to meet outgoing President Jose Sarney, who took the presidential sash from his shoulder and placed it on the new

Peruvian police, U.S. agents supervise coca destruction However, the United States

Workers have begun destroying claudestine plots of coca seedlings under the supervision of Peruvian police and U.S. drug agents, the first major strategy implemented from last month's anti-drug summit Colombia.

The operations began this week on a small scale in Peru's coca-rich upper Hualiaga Valley, targeting isolated fields of young plants before they can be transplanted. The workers used gaspowered weed cutters to destroy the plants.

An Alarming increase in fields planted has prompted the government to renew its eradication programme, which was susneeded more than a year ago, according to U.S. embassy spokesman Gene Bigler. Despite a drastic drop in price

in the last six months for Peruvian coca leaf, the raw material for cocaine, Peruvians continue to move into the valley, hoping to get rich off the drug trade. They're cutting down all the trees," said Gen. Juan Zarate,

head of Peru's anti-drug police, from the back seat of a helicopter cutting through the heavy jungle air 152 metres above the valley Zarate pointed out new coca

plantations carved out of the

jungle hillsides, creating n hapha-gard patchwork of canerald hues up and down the valley. There's going to be so much

environmental damage," he said. Zarate took reporters to visit a test site where government scientists were studying the environmental effects of applying the herbicide spike to illegal coca

Spike is one of a number of eradication methods under study. U.S. officials favour its use, saying testing so far indicate it does not cause ecological damage. But the Peruvian government has said more tests need to be done before it would consider using the chemical.

The move to begin manual eradication marks a major policy change for the government of President Alan Garcia, who favours a strategy of helping farmers gradually shift to other

The accord signed in Cartagena, Colombia, by Garcia, U.S. President George Bush, and the Presidents of Bolivia and Colombia, linked eradication to economic development aid and the opening of U.S. markets to crops such as coffee, cacao and palm oil to give the coca growers alternative means of support.

has said it is reloctant to fund development projects with Peru's 3,000 per cent inflation and n growing leftist insurgency by Macist Shining Path guerrillas, who operate freely in much of the Hualiaga Valley.

But U.S. officials proposed

going ahead with a limited eradication programme to stem the growth coca production. The Peruvian government "has asked us for our support in era-

dication, and, of course, we're

delighted," Bigler said.
The eradication teams operate out of the U.S.-built base at Santa Lucia, 420 kilometres northeast in Lima in the upper Hualiaga Valley, the world's richest source of coca leaf.

About 350 eradication workers are stationed in Santa Lucia, along with about 120 Peruvian police and 30 to 40 U.S. drug agents, contracted American helicopter pilots and mechanics. Ten UH-1 helicopters on loan from the U.S. State Department

den under the deuse jungle Since September, the police have conducted raids against air-strips and jungle laboratories

ferry the workers from the base

to clandestine seedling plots, hid-

used by snungglers to transform the leaves into a paste and ship it to Colombia, where it is made into cocaine. The police have destroyed ab-

out 125 labs since September,

according to an embassy official. But despite interdiction efforts in Peru and Colombia, where authorities have confiscated hundreds of airplanes used by the smuggiers, a recent U.S. government report says the number of acres planted in coca in the Andean nations grew by 12 per cent last year.

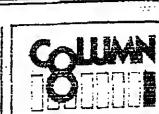
More than 250,000 people are involved in growing and processing the drug plant in Peru, bringing more than \$1 billion a year into the country, according to U.S. and Peruvian government

The government estimated that coca grows on half a milion acrs in Peru, with 60 of it in the Huallaga Valley.

As the helicopter swooped loudly over a small ridge, Zerate looked down on a woman and child standing next to a thatched but with their latest coca harvest

drying in the sun nearby.

What we need is to give these people something else to do so they stop moving in here," he



Filmmakers race to cash in on Lambada dance

LOS ANGELES (AP) - About

the only thing botter than Lambade these days is the fever with which filmmakers are trying to cash in on the bump-and-grind dance. Two independent movie companies owned by rival cousins are set to release quickie films head to head, taking advantage of the steamy Afro-Brazilian dance sensation sweeping the country. Cannon Films' "Lambada" completed production only last week and will open on some 1.000 screens around the United States Made in six weeks for about \$4 million, the film is about a high school teacher who uses Lambada to encourage barrio kids to study. The Forbidden Dance, produced by 21st Century Film Corp., opens on 500 U.S. screens after a month in the making. It tells the story of a Brazilian princess who uses Lambada dancing to save her country's rain ferests. "They're both being nuched out," said John Krier, president of Exhibito Relations Co., which tracks movie box office perform is ance. Cannoa originally scheduled a May 4 release and 21st Century an April 6 premiere. Most films take at least a year, and often twice as long, to make and release. Krier speculated the intense

competition between the films is tied to the rivalry of cousins Menahem Golan of 21st Century and Yoram Globus of Cannon. They founded Cannon, which has since been bought by Pathe Communications. Dance instructors hope the films will fuel the already heated interest in Lambada. just as Saturday Night Fever Dirty Dencing, and Flashdance rivetalised club dancing. "Lambada's going to bring people back into the studios, get them back into comple descing." said Los Angeles instructor Michael Davis, who has taught the dance about three months. "The last dance craze was the hustie some seven years ago, since thes it's just been freestyle dancing. Now it's time for a return to couple dending." Bora decades ago in Brazil's northern Bahia, Lambada somewhat resembles other Latin dances, such as Salsa. It is a tota dance with male female partners entwined around each other, grinding their hips together.

Quayle setums gift of laguar cubs

BRASILIA (R) — Vice President Dan Quayle has returned a

pair of jaguar cobs given him by the president of Paraguay because the animals are an cadangered species, a Quayle aide has said. The sleek cats, a gift of President Andres Rodriguez, were waiting for Quayle at the U.S. embassy in Asuncion Moaday evening when he arrived in Paraguay for an overnight visit during his Latin American goodwill tour. Aides said he would donate the jaguars, named Chaco and Paloma, to a 200 in the United States. But a Quayle aide said a check of the endangered species act showed that the fivemonth-old cubs could not it brought to the United States without a special permit. Reports of the gift also caused an outcry from U.S. snimal rights groups. Assistant Secretary of State Bernard Aronson told n Rodriguez aide that Quayle would prefer that the jaguars be returned to the wild. The aide blamed the embassy staff for the diplomatic embarassment, saying Quayle's office had been reinctent to accept the jaguars in the first place. U.S. diplomats in Paraguay insisted it would create an incident if the gift was refused,

Globai westher

the aide said.

AMSTERDAM

(major world cities)

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THENS	05	43	16	61	Clear
AHRAN	18	64	24	75	Cloudy
ANGROK	24	75	35	91	Clear
UENOS AIRES	18	64	28		Class
APO	12	52	20		Cloudy
HICAGO	11	52	20		Cloudy
OPENHAGEN	08	43	12		Clear
PANKFURT_	C2	36	16		
EVEVA	OB	46			Clear
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TANBUL		64	20		Clear.
DINDON	02	38	10		Clear
	07	45	17		Clongk
OS ANGELES	09	40	26	79	Clear
ADRID	03	48	23	73	Close
ECCA	16	61	35	95	Cloudy
ONTREAL	01	34	08	46	Cloudy
NOBCOW	03	25	03	87	Cloudy
	17	62	31	67	Clear
EW YORK	06	42	25	77	Salo
WRIB	01	34	17		Clear
ONE	09	48	19		Clear
YDNEY	19	86	21		Patin

Moscow, Vatican renew ties VATICAN CITY (AP) - The Vatican and Moscow have

established dinlomatic ties for the first time since the 1917 Russian Revolution. The Vatican and Moscow said the two sides have agreed to exchange representatives with the rank of apostolic nuncio, or papai envoy, and extraordinary ambassador. The ties iali short of full diplomatic relations. Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro described them as "pre-diplomatic relations" and said there was 'room for further development." He gave no indication when the ties might be upgraded. The move was an extraordinary zavance in relations between the Roman Catholic Church and a state that declared war against religion after the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution. The Vatican and Moscow had diplomatic relations under the Russian Czars.

world news in erief

Quayle calls Cuba 'last real problem'

BRASILIA (R) - U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, winding up a six-nation Latin American goodwill tour, has said that the Western hemisphere had undergone s "revolution of democracy" that would some day include Cube. "This is the last real problem in our hemisphere. The sooner it is resolved, the better." he said, referring to the Communist rule of Cuban President Fidel Castro. Quayle and Castro were among dozens of foreign dignitaries attending the inauguration, of Brazil's new President Pernando Collor de Mello, but the two did not meet. In n jibe at the Cuban ieader. Quayie told a news conference here he was "struck by the fact that only one Latin American leader wore a military uniform." "The rest of the Latin American leaders were there (at Collor's inauguration) because the people had voted for them," he said. Three of the countries on Quayle's tour - Chile, Paraguay and Argentina - have recently restored civilian governments after years of military rule.

imoida Marcos arrives in Mew York

NEW YORK (R) - Dressed in black, carrying a dozen roses and protected by a millionnire's bodyguards, former Philippines first lady Imelda Marcos arrived in New York Thursday to face charges of looting her nation's treasury. Mrs. Marcos looked tired and unusually withdrawn as she arrived from Honolula to begin a trial next Tuesday that could see her jailed for up to 50 years if convicted. She had no comment at the airport, where her only words were "fine, thank you" in response to wellwisher. Then she got into a' nousine protected by bodyguards with jackets bearing the coat-of-arms of millionaire Doris Duke.